



West Virginia
Agricultural
Statistics Service

CROP-WEATHER BULLETIN

In Cooperation with:
US Department of Commerce-NOAA
USDA Farm Service Agency
WVU Extension Service
WV Dept. of Agriculture

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SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: April 7, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 4
FOR WEEK OF: March 31 - April 6

GENERAL

A late season snow storm struck parts of the state on March 31, resulting in up to foot of snow in the mountains. Some farmers are looking for hay to purchase, as hay supplies are running short. Spring calf and lamb losses are higher than normal.

Temperatures: Temperatures averaged 3 to 6 degrees above normal for the week. Several locations saw afternoon highs in the low to mid 80s. Some chilly overnight temperatures occurred as well as readings in the 20s and a few teens. Daily highs ranged from the 70's and 80's. The highest reported temperature was 84 degrees at Romney and Moorefield. The lowest reported temperature was 18 degrees at Belington. The Statewide weekly average temperature was 53 degrees.

Precipitation: Precipitation was above normal. Some areas received over an inch. The Statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.91 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 6.0 last week. Total acres plowed that are intended for spring planted crops were 25 percent complete compared to 33 percent in 2002 and 27 percent for the 5-yr average.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|-----------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current Week | -- | 6 | 78 | 16 |
| Last Year | 2 | 18 | 66 | 14 |

Farm activities included calving, lambing, feeding livestock, purchasing and moving hay, fertilizing, cleaning debris from early spring storms and other early spring activities.

FRUIT

Adults of redbanded leafroller and spotted tentiform leafminer are beginning to emerge in apple orchards. Overwintering eggs of rosy apple aphid have hatched. Apple and peach conditions were reported in fair to good condition, with most apples at ½ inch green stage. Peaches are generally at full pink stage of development with some varieties at half bloom depending on location.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|--------------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 6 | 41 | 50 | 3 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 14 | 40 | 45 | 1 |
| Apples | -- | -- | 50 | 50 | -- |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 50 | 50 | -- |
| Hay | 5 | 6 | 53 | 35 | 1 |
| Wheat | -- | 1 | 15 | 84 | -- |
| Pasture | 1 | 24 | 40 | 33 | 2 |

GRAINS

Corn was 1 percent planted, compared to 5 percent last year. Oats were 27 percent planted, compared to 20 percent last year and 13 percent for the 5-yr average. Fields were 3 percent emerged, compared to 5 percent emerged at this time last year. Winter wheat conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as good.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Cattle were 75 percent calved compared to 74 percent last year and 76 percent for a 5-yr average. Sheep condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported in fair to good condition. Sheep were 77 percent lambled compared to 75 percent last year and 76 percent for a 5-yr average. Pasture conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most were reported as fair. Hay feed supplies were reported as mostly short, but ranged from very short to surplus. Feed grain supplies were reported from very short to mostly adequate.

HAY

Hay condition ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in mostly fair condition.

TOBACCO

Tobacco was 62 percent seeded compared to 53 percent in 2002 and 55 percent seeded for the 5-yr average. The beds, including water beds, were 10 percent emerged, compared to 37 percent emerged last year and 15 percent for the 5-yr average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | OATS | | TOBACCO | | PERCENT OF TOTAL ACRES PREPARED FOR SPRING PLANTING |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--|
| | PLANTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | SEEDED | EMERGED | |
| 2003 | 1 | 27 | 3 | 62 | 10 | 25 |
| 2002 | 5 | 20 | 5 | 53 | 37 | 33 |
| 5 YR AVG | -- | 13 | -- | 55 | 15 | 27 |

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above normal. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

| TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 6, 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|-------|---------------|-----------------|------|----------------|
| STATION | TEMPERATURE | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | |
| | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | TOTAL | WEEKS NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 77 | 25 | 52 | | 1.02 | | 0.98 | 0.10 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 81 | 29 | 55 | + 5 | 0.68 | 0.84 | 0.65 | 0.13 | 0.84 |
| CRESTON | 82 | 25 | 53 | | 0.54 | | 0.52 | 0.13 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 79 | 29 | 55 | | 0.96 | | 0.91 | 0.24 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 79 | 25 | 52 | + 5 | 0.82 | 0.85 | 0.79 | 0.06 | 0.85 |
| BELINGTON | 76 | 18 | 49 | | 0.83 | | 0.75 | 0.13 | |
| WESTON | 83 | 25 | 54 | | 0.62 | | 0.62 | 0.00 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 82 | 26 | 56 | | 1.54 | | 1.54 | 0.00 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 82 | 33 | 57 | + 5 | 1.10 | 0.77 | 1.10 | 0.10 | 0.77 |
| CHARLESTON | 82 | 28 | 57 | + 6 | 0.92 | 0.77 | 0.92 | 0.31 | 0.77 |
| RIPLEY | 81 | 27 | 55 | | 0.59 | | 0.58 | 0.26 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 73 | 26 | 51 | | 1.16 | | 1.12 | 0.13 | |
| ELKINS | 77 | 24 | 50 | + 5 | 0.88 | 0.88 | 0.88 | 0.05 | 0.88 |
| MARLINTON | 75 | 19 | 45 | | 0.94 | | 0.92 | 0.03 | |
| BECKLEY | 78 | 22 | 51 | + 3 | 1.25 | 0.77 | 1.25 | 0.02 | 0.77 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 82 | 28 | 54 | | 1.48 | | 1.46 | 0.00 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 79 | 23 | 52 | + 3 | 0.76 | 0.77 | 0.74 | 0.05 | 0.77 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 80 | 23 | 51 | | 0.67 | | 0.67 | 0.00 | |
| FLAT TOP | 78 | 22 | 51 | | 1.25 | | 1.25 | 0.02 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 81 | 24 | 51 | + 4 | 0.60 | 0.71 | 0.60 | 0.01 | 0.71 |
| ROMNEY | 84 | 27 | 53 | | 0.92 | | 0.92 | 0.00 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 84 | 27 | 54 | | 0.82 | | 0.82 | 0.00 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: April 14, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 5
FOR WEEK OF: April 7 - April 13

GENERAL

A week of cool temperatures and nearly double the average precipitation in many parts of the state slowed most field work. More seasonal temperatures and dryer weather was prevalent over the weekend. Some problems associated with wet weather and mud were reported. mountains.

Temperatures: Below normal temperatures were seen Monday through Friday with more normal temperatures seen during the weekend. The highest reported temperature was 74 degrees at Williamson. The lowest reported temperature was 26 degrees at Marlinton. The Statewide weekly average temperature was 46 degrees.

Precipitation: Above normal precipitation occurred over the week with numerous days of rainfall Monday through Friday. Nearly double or more precipitation normals occurred in all areas except the northwest area. The Statewide weekly average precipitation was 1.60 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 3.0 last week. Total acres plowed that are intended for spring planted crops were 27 percent complete compared to 25 percent last week and 53 percent in 2002 and 43 percent for the 5-yr. average.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current Week | -- | 4 | 75 | 21 |
| Last Week | -- | 6 | 78 | 16 |
| Last Year | 11 | 32 | 56 | 1 |

Farm activities included calving, lambing, feeding livestock, purchasing and moving hay, fertilizing, and cleaning debris from early spring storms.

FRUIT

After cool, rainy conditions, during most of the week which resulted in very little insect activity, emergence of the redbanded leafroller and the spotted tentiform leafminer moths resumed at the end of last week. Apple and peach conditions were reported in fair to good condition.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 11 | 33 | 53 | 3 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 18 | 35 | 45 | 2 |
| Apples | -- | -- | 46 | 54 | -- |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 50 | 50 | -- |
| Hay | -- | 3 | 58 | 35 | 4 |
| Wheat | -- | -- | 18 | 82 | -- |
| Pasture | -- | 15 | 50 | 34 | 1 |

GRAINS

Corn was 2 percent planted, compared to 5 percent last year and 3 percent planted for the 5-yr. average. Oats were 30 percent planted, compared to 64 percent last year and 29 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 4 percent emerged, compared to 20 percent emerged at this time last year and 8 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from fair to good, but most fields were estimated as good.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Cattle were 79 percent calved compared to 86 percent last year and 80 percent for a 5-yr. average. Sheep condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported in fair to good condition. Sheep were 86 percent lambled compared to 84 percent last year and 81 percent for a 5-yr. average. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as fair. Hay feed supplies were reported as mostly short, but ranged from very short to surplus. Feed grain supplies were reported from very short to mostly adequate.

HAY

Hay condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in mostly fair condition.

TOBACCO

Tobacco was 92 percent seeded compared to 87 percent in 2002 and 76 percent seeded for the 5-yr average. The beds, including water beds, were 16 percent emerged, compared to 40 percent emerged last year and 22 percent for the 5-yr average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | OATS | | TOBACCO | | PERCENT OF TOTAL ACRES PREPARED FOR SPRING PLANTING |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--|
| | PLANTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | SEEDED | EMERGED | |
| 2003 | 2 | 30 | 4 | 92 | 16 | 27 |
| 2002 | 5 | 64 | 20 | 87 | 40 | 53 |
| 5 YR AVG | 3 | 29 | 8 | 76 | 22 | 43 |

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Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above normal. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 13, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
|------------------|------|---------------|---------|-----------|-------|------|-----------------|------|----------------|
| | | WEEKLY | WEEKS | | | 2003 | 2002 | | |
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | AVERAGE | DEPARTURE | TOTAL | NORM | | | |
| --NORTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 67 | 35 | 48 | | 0.97 | | 1.95 | 1.01 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 70 | 37 | 50 | - 2 | 0.88 | 0.84 | 1.53 | 1.08 | 1.68 |
| CRESTON | 69 | 32 | 48 | | 0.79 | | 1.31 | 1.02 | |
| --NORTHCENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 64 | 35 | 46 | | 0.65 | | 1.56 | 1.41 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 67 | 35 | 49 | 0 | 1.10 | 0.84 | 1.89 | 1.71 | 1.69 |
| BELINGTON | 66 | 29 | 47 | | 1.63 | | 2.38 | 1.91 | |
| WESTON | 70 | 33 | 50 | | 1.38 | | 2.00 | 1.43 | |
| --SOUTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 74 | 39 | 51 | | 2.10 | | 3.64 | 1.02 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 72 | 36 | 51 | - 3 | 1.10 | 0.77 | 2.20 | 1.10 | 1.54 |
| CHARLESTON | 69 | 31 | 48 | - 5 | 0.69 | 0.76 | 1.61 | 0.99 | 1.53 |
| RIPLEY | 69 | 35 | 49 | | 1.01 | | 1.59 | 1.26 | |
| --CENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 59 | 29 | 39 | | 1.07 | | 2.19 | 2.07 | |
| ELKINS | 65 | 31 | 46 | - 1 | 2.16 | 0.86 | 3.04 | 2.58 | 1.74 |
| MARLINTON | 64 | 26 | 40 | | 2.03 | | 2.95 | 1.57 | |
| BECKLEY | 64 | 30 | 42 | - 8 | 2.32 | 0.77 | 3.57 | 1.02 | 1.54 |
| --SOUTHERN-- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 71 | 37 | 49 | | 2.07 | | 3.53 | 0.84 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 69 | 31 | 42 | - 9 | 2.49 | 0.77 | 3.23 | 0.76 | 1.54 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 69 | 31 | 43 | | 2.70 | | 3.37 | 1.50 | |
| FLAT TOP | 64 | 30 | 42 | | 2.32 | | 3.57 | 1.02 | |
| --NORTHEASTERN-- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 69 | 32 | 43 | - 6 | 2.23 | 0.74 | 2.83 | 0.83 | 1.45 |
| ROMNEY | 70 | 29 | 42 | | 1.58 | | 2.50 | 0.99 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 70 | 32 | 42 | | 1.93 | | 2.75 | 1.19 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: April 21, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 6
FOR WEEK OF: April 14 - April 20

GENERAL

Cooler and wetter temperatures throughout much of the state slowed field work. Field preparations and plantings are behind.

Temperatures: All temperatures were from just above to well above normal. The highest reported temperature was 87 degrees at Romney. The lowest reported temperature was 27 degrees at Marlinton. The Statewide weekly average temperature was 59 degrees.

Precipitation: The northwest, northcentral and northeastern sections of the state received below normal precipitation. All other sections were around or above normal for the week. The Statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.64 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 5.0 last week. Total acres plowed that are intended for spring planted crops were 48 percent complete compared to 55 percent in 2002 and 52 percent for the 5-yr. average.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|-----------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 86 | 14 |
| Last Week | -- | 4 | 75 | 21 |
| Last Year | -- | 5 | 65 | 30 |

Farm activities such as calving, lambing, feeding livestock, purchasing and moving hay, fertilizing, cleaning debris from early spring storms and other spring activities continued.

FRUIT

Adults of oriental fruit moth have begun to emerge in both apple and peach orchards, with biofix beginning April 15 at the West Virginia University Kearneysville Tree Fruit Research and Education Center. Apple and peach conditions were reported in to good condition.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|--------------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 11 | 28 | 56 | 5 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 39 | 53 | 7 |
| Apples | -- | -- | -- | 100 | -- |
| Peaches | -- | -- | -- | 100 | -- |
| Hay | -- | 4 | 45 | 49 | 2 |
| Wheat | -- | 1 | 24 | 67 | 8 |
| Pasture | -- | 18 | 32 | 47 | 3 |

GRAINS

Corn was 3 percent planted, compared to 7 percent last year and 7 percent planted for the 5-yr. average. Oats were 55 percent planted, compared to 65 percent last year and 40 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 9 percent emerged, compared to 30 percent emerged at this time last year and 17 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Cattle were 89 percent calved compared to 88 percent last year and 87 percent for a 5-yr. average. Sheep condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported in good condition. Sheep were 92 percent lambed compared to 87 percent last year and 86 percent for a 5-yr. average. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good. Hay feed supplies were reported as mostly adequate, but ranged from very short to adequate. Feed grain supplies were reported from short to mostly adequate.

HAY

Hay condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in fair to good condition.

TOBACCO

Tobacco was 99 percent seeded compared to 95 percent in 2002 and 85 percent seeded for the 5-yr average. The beds, including water beds, 33 were percent emerged, compared to 75 percent emerged last year and 43 percent for the 5-yr average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | OATS | | TOBACCO | | PERCENT OF TOTAL ACRES PREPARED FOR SPRING PLANTING |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--|
| | PLANTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | SEEDED | EMERGED | |
| 2003 | 3 | 55 | 9 | 99 | 33 | 48 |
| 2002 | 7 | 65 | 30 | 95 | 75 | 55 |
| 5 YR AVG | 7 | 40 | 17 | 85 | 43 | 52 |

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- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above normal. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

| TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 20, 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|-------|-----------------|------|------|----------------|
| STATION | TEMPERATURE | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | SEASON NORM |
| | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | TOTAL | SINCE APRIL 1st | | | |
| | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 85 | 37 | 62 | | 0.66 | | 2.61 | 1.36 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 85 | 38 | 60 | + 6 | 0.85 | 0.84 | 2.38 | 3.08 | 2.52 |
| CRESTON | 84 | 31 | 59 | | 0.68 | | 1.99 | 3.50 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 83 | 44 | 62 | | 0.21 | | 1.77 | 3.05 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 83 | 36 | 62 | + 11 | 0.33 | 0.84 | 2.22 | 3.43 | 2.53 |
| BELINGTON | 79 | 31 | 58 | | 0.23 | | 2.61 | 4.42 | |
| WESTON | 86 | 35 | 63 | | 0.82 | | 2.82 | 3.29 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 86 | 41 | 64 | | 1.45 | | 5.09 | 2.23 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 86 | 42 | 65 | + 9 | 0.70 | 0.77 | 2.90 | 2.02 | 2.31 |
| CHARLESTON | 83 | 35 | 63 | + 8 | 1.11 | 0.77 | 2.72 | 3.26 | 2.30 |
| RIPLEY | 84 | 35 | 62 | | 0.73 | | 2.32 | 4.28 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 76 | 34 | 54 | | 0.03 | | 2.22 | 3.95 | |
| ELKINS | 80 | 32 | 58 | + 10 | 0.23 | 0.91 | 3.27 | 4.70 | 2.65 |
| MARLINTON | 74 | 27 | 50 | | 0.55 | | 3.50 | 3.49 | |
| BECKLEY | 78 | 31 | 56 | + 4 | 1.00 | 0.80 | 4.57 | 2.73 | 2.34 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 82 | 37 | 60 | | 0.91 | | 4.44 | 3.12 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 79 | 32 | 56 | + 3 | 0.98 | 0.82 | 4.21 | 1.65 | 2.36 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 80 | 31 | 55 | | 0.41 | | 3.78 | 4.19 | |
| FLAT TOP | 78 | 31 | 56 | | 1.00 | | 4.57 | 2.73 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 84 | 35 | 54 | + 2 | 0.27 | 0.77 | 3.10 | 1.49 | 2.22 |
| ROMNEY | 87 | 32 | 54 | | 0.34 | | 2.84 | 2.39 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 85 | 35 | 56 | | 0.61 | | 3.36 | 2.99 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: April 27, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 7
FOR WEEK OF: April 21 - April 26

GENERAL

Most field work and planting of corn and oats are behind normal schedule.

Temperatures: It was a chilly week with temperatures running 2 to 4 degrees below normal across much of the area. Frost and freezing temperatures were reported at many locations during mid-week. The highest reported temperature was 83 degrees at Parkersburg. The lowest reported temperature was 24 degrees at Elkins and Marlinton. The Statewide weekly average temperature was 52 degrees.

Precipitation: Precipitation averaged below normal. The Statewide weekly average precipitation was .54 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 4 last week. Total acres plowed that are intended for spring planted crops was 53 percent complete compared to 58 percent in 2002 and 57 percent for the 5-yr. average.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current Week | -- | 4 | 89 | 7 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 86 | 14 |
| Last Year | 1 | 3 | 58 | 38 |

Farm activities such as calving, lambing, feeding livestock, plowing, planting, fertilizing, fixing fences, and other spring activities continued.

FRUIT

Apple conditions were reported fair to excellent, with most in good condition. Peach conditions were reported fair to good, with most in good condition. Based on degree day accumulations egg hatch of first generation oriental fruit moth is estimated at 4 percent complete.

TOBACCO

Tobacco was 99 percent seeded compared to 98 percent in 2002 and 91 percent seeded for the 5-yr average. The beds, including water beds, were 79 percent emerged, compared to 91 percent emerged last year and 69 percent for the 5-yr average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 5 | 30 | 61 | 4 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 2 | 45 | 52 | 1 |
| Apples | -- | -- | 34 | 65 | 1 |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 35 | 65 | -- |
| Hay | -- | 5 | 48 | 42 | 5 |
| Wheat | -- | 1 | 22 | 69 | 8 |
| Pasture | -- | 13 | 35 | 48 | 4 |

GRAINS

Corn was 3 percent planted, compared to 10 percent last year and 12 percent planted for the 5-yr. average. Oats were 57 percent planted, compared to 67 percent last year and 49 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 23 percent emerged, compared to 37 percent emerged at this time last year and 22 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. There was no percentage of wheat headed this week, compared to 1 percent last year.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Cattle were 89 percent calved compared to 89 percent last year and 89 percent for a 5-yr. average. Sheep condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported in fair to good condition. Sheep were 92 percent lambled compared to 91 percent last year and 91 percent for a 5-yr. average. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good. Hay feed supplies were reported as short to adequate, but ranged from very short to surplus. Feed grain supplies were reported from very short to mostly adequate.

HAY

Hay condition ranged from poor to excellent, but fields were reported in mostly fair to good condition.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | OATS | | WHEAT | TOBACCO | | SOYBEANS | PERCENT OF TOTAL ACRES PREPARED FOR SPRING PLANTING |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|----------|---|
| | PLANTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | HEADED | SEEDED | EMERGED | PLANTED | |
| 2003 | 3 | 57 | 23 | 0 | 99 | 79 | 1 | 53 |
| 2002 | 10 | 67 | 37 | 1 | 98 | 91 | 0 | 58 |
| 5 YR AVG | 12 | 49 | 22 | NA | 91 | 69 | NA | 57 |

NA = Not available

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 27, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|---------|-----------|---------------|------|-----------------|------|-------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY | | WEEKS | | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | AVERAGE | DEPARTURE | TOTAL | NORM | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 75 | 32 | 52 | | 0.05 | | 2.66 | 2.63 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 83 | 33 | 54 | - 2 | 0.21 | 0.84 | 2.59 | 4.70 | 3.63 |
| CRESTON | 76 | 28 | 50 | | 0.33 | | 2.32 | 5.64 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 74 | 29 | 52 | | 0.17 | | 1.94 | 4.60 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 75 | 30 | 51 | - 2 | 0.35 | 0.84 | 2.57 | 4.94 | 3.37 |
| BELINGTON | 72 | 26 | 49 | | 0.82 | | 3.43 | 6.40 | |
| WESTON | 79 | 30 | 53 | | 1.40 | | 4.22 | 4.99 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 79 | 36 | 56 | | 0.30 | | 5.39 | 5.12 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 73 | 36 | 54 | - 4 | 0.60 | 0.84 | 3.50 | 3.54 | 3.15 |
| CHARLESTON | 76 | 29 | 51 | - 6 | 0.23 | 0.77 | 2.95 | 4.82 | 3.07 |
| RIPLEY | 75 | 31 | 53 | | 0.22 | | 2.54 | 6.86 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 68 | 28 | 48 | | 0.42 | | 2.64 | 6.42 | |
| ELKIN | 73 | 24 | 51 | 0 | 0.88 | 0.91 | 4.15 | 6.26 | 3.56 |
| MARLINTON | 68 | 24 | 45 | | 0.82 | | 4.32 | 5.52 | |
| BECKLEY | 71 | 27 | 49 | - 4 | 0.75 | 0.84 | 5.32 | 4.15 | 3.18 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 76 | 34 | 54 | | 0.76 | | 5.20 | 4.75 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 73 | 29 | 51 | - 4 | 0.37 | 0.84 | 4.58 | 3.15 | 3.20 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 74 | 29 | 51 | | 0.70 | | 4.48 | 5.60 | |
| FLAT TOP | 71 | 27 | 49 | | 0.75 | | 5.32 | 4.15 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 72 | 37 | 55 | + 1 | 0.68 | 0.77 | 3.78 | 2.68 | 2.99 |
| ROMNEY | 74 | 28 | 52 | | 0.72 | | 3.56 | 3.83 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 74 | 30 | 54 | | 0.45 | | 3.81 | 4.85 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: May 5, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 8
FOR WEEK OF: April 28 - May 4

GENERAL

With the additional moisture in some areas, pastures and meadows were reported as growing fast. Some areas had a light frost, but no damage was evident. Plantings are still behind; however, preparations are underway.

Temperatures: Daily high temperatures were mostly in the 70s and low 80s through the week with a cool down into the 50s and 60s by week's end. Overnight lows were in the 30s or low 40s on Monday morning and the 40s and 50s for the rest of the week. The highest reported temperature was 90 degrees at Romney. The lowest reported temperature was 30 degrees at Marlinton. The Statewide weekly average temperature was 61degrees.

Precipitation: Rainfall throughout the week was light and scattered, with most areas getting less than half a inch on any single day. There were isolated exceptions where a thunderstorm occurred or was in the area. For example, Huntington received a total of 2.01 inches in a 24 hour period by 8:00 am on Friday morning . The Statewide weekly average precipitation was 1.12 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 4.0 last week. Total acres plowed that are intended for spring planted crops was 65 percent complete compared with 62 percent in 2002 and 67 percent for the 5-yr. average.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | PERCENT | | | |
| Current Week | -- | 4 | 86 | 10 |
| Last Week | -- | 4 | 89 | 7 |
| Last Year | -- | -- | 65 | 35 |

Farm activities such as calving, lambing, feeding livestock, plowing, planting, fertilizing, fixing fences, and other spring activities continued.

FRUIT

Apple conditions were reported fair to excellent, with most in good condition. Peach conditions were reported fair to excellent, with most in good condition. Green peach aphids have been observed infesting leaf clusters in some peach orchards. Emergence of codling moth adults has begun, with biofix set on April 30. Based on degree day accumulations, egg hatch of first generation oriental fruit moth is estimated at 21 percent complete.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----|
| | PERCENT | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 2 | 35 | 61 | 2 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 5 | 47 | 47 | 1 |
| Apples | -- | -- | 41 | 58 | 1 |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 42 | 57 | 1 |
| Hay | -- | 1 | 44 | 49 | 6 |
| Wheat | -- | -- | 14 | 79 | 7 |
| Pasture | -- | 6 | 48 | 41 | 5 |

GRAINS

Corn was 18 percent planted, compared with 33 percent last year and 24 percent planted for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 1 percent emerged, compared with no emerged corn reported last year. Oats were 67 percent planted, compared with 70 percent last year and 61 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 26 percent emerged, compared with 40 percent emerged at this time last year and 27 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from fair to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 1 percent headed, compared with 26 percent last year and 12 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybeans were 1 percent planted, compared with 10 percent at this time last year and 4 percent for the 5-yr. average.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Cattle were 92 percent calved compared with 92 percent last year and 92 percent for a 5-yr. average. Sheep condition ranged from poor to excellent, with most being in fair to good condition. Sheep were 93 percent lambled compared with 95 percent last year and 94 percent for a 5-yr. average. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as fair to good. Hay feed supplies were reported as adequate, but ranged from very short to adequate. Feed grain supplies were reported from very short to mostly adequate.

HAY

Hay condition ranged from poor to excellent, but fields were reported in fair to mostly good condition.

TOBACCO

Tobacco beds, including water beds, were 100 percent seeded, compared with 100 percent last year and 98 percent seeded for the 5-yr. average. The beds, including water beds, were 82 percent emerged, compared with 96 percent emerged last year and 80 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | OATS | | WHEAT | TOBACCO | | SOYBEANS | PERCENT OF TOTAL ACRES PREPARED FOR SPRING PLANTING |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|----------|---|
| | PLANTED | EMERGED | PLANTED | EMERGED | HEADED | SEEDED | EMERGED | PLANTED | |
| 2003 | 18 | 1 | 67 | 26 | 1 | 100 | 82 | 1 | 65 |
| 2002 | 33 | 0 | 70 | 40 | 26 | 100 | 96 | 10 | 62 |
| 5 YR AVG | 24 | NA | 61 | 27 | 12 | 98 | 80 | 4 | 67 |

NA = Not available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

| TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 4, 2003 | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|-------|---------------|-----------------|------|----------------|------|
| STATION | TEMPERATURE | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | | |
| | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | TOTAL | WEEKS NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM | |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 84 | 42 | 63 | | | 0.82 | | 3.48 | 3.18 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 84 | 40 | 63 | + 5 | | 1.20 | 0.84 | 3.79 | 4.80 | 4.20 |
| CRESTON | 81 | 33 | 60 | | | 1.02 | | 3.34 | 5.99 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 80 | 46 | 62 | | | 1.30 | | 3.24 | 4.96 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 80 | 37 | 61 | + 5 | | 1.19 | 0.79 | 3.76 | 5.12 | 4.16 |
| BELINGTON | 80 | 33 | 59 | | | 1.37 | | 4.80 | 7.45 | |
| WESTON | 84 | 45 | 64 | | | 1.00 | | 5.22 | 5.81 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 86 | 47 | 66 | | | 0.50 | | 5.89 | 5.89 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 84 | 39 | 64 | + 4 | | 3.20 | 0.91 | 6.70 | 3.94 | 4.06 |
| CHARLESTON | 82 | 40 | 62 | + 3 | | 0.64 | 0.83 | 3.59 | 5.29 | 3.90 |
| RIPLEY | 82 | 40 | 61 | | | 0.38 | | 2.92 | 7.19 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 75 | 43 | 57 | | | 0.93 | | 3.57 | 8.16 | |
| ELKIN | 80 | 33 | 58 | + 5 | | 1.88 | 0.91 | 6.03 | 7.14 | 4.47 |
| MARLINTON | 75 | 30 | 55 | | | 2.11 | | 6.43 | 6.59 | |
| BECKLEY | 77 | 34 | 58 | + 2 | | 0.71 | 0.84 | 6.03 | 6.44 | 4.02 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 81 | 40 | 63 | | | 1.91 | | 7.11 | 6.37 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 79 | 37 | 62 | + 5 | | 0.12 | 0.90 | 4.70 | 6.17 | 4.10 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 79 | 34 | 59 | | | 1.78 | | 6.26 | 6.87 | |
| FLAT TOP | 77 | 34 | 58 | | | 0.71 | | 6.03 | 6.44 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 81 | 41 | 61 | + 5 | | 0.16 | 0.84 | 3.94 | 3.52 | 3.83 |
| ROMNEY | 90 | 34 | 61 | | | 0.99 | | 4.55 | 4.62 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 84 | 38 | 61 | | | 0.67 | | 4.48 | 5.52 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: May 12, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 9
FOR WEEK OF: May 5 - May 11

GENERAL

Above normal precipitation for the week only allowed for two days of field work, resulting in further delay of plantings.

Temperatures: All temperatures were well above normal for this week. The highest reported temperature was 89 degrees at Moorefield. The lowest reported temperature was 42 degrees at Marlinton. The Statewide weekly average temperature was 65 degrees.

Precipitation: All precipitation was well above normal for the week. The Statewide weekly average precipitation was 2.53 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 2.0 last week. Total acres plowed that are intended for spring planted crops was 71 percent complete compared with 65 percent in 2002 and 75 percent for the 5-yr. average.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | PERCENT | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 58 | 42 |
| Last Week | -- | 4 | 86 | 10 |
| Last Year | -- | -- | 55 | 45 |

Farm activities included calving and lambing, planting when conditions allowed, repairing fences, cleaning debris from areas hit by flooding and high winds.

FRUIT

Apple conditions were reported fair to excellent, with most in good condition. Peach conditions were reported fair to excellent, with most in good condition.

TOBACCO

Tobacco beds, including water beds, were 90 percent emerged, compared with 98 percent emerged last year and 93 percent for the 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----|
| | PERCENT | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 2 | 33 | 61 | 4 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 6 | 48 | 44 | 2 |
| Apples | -- | -- | 41 | 58 | 1 |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 42 | 57 | 1 |
| Hay | -- | 1 | 41 | 52 | 6 |
| Wheat | -- | -- | 14 | 79 | 7 |
| Pasture | -- | 3 | 43 | 46 | 8 |

GRAINS

Corn was 20 percent planted, compared with 35 percent last year and 39 percent planted for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 7 percent emerged. Oats were 72 percent planted, compared with 75 percent last year and 76 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 60 percent emerged, compared with 45 percent emerged at this time last year and 41 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from fair to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 5 percent headed, compared with 30 percent last year and 23 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybeans were 4 percent planted, compared with 20 percent at this time last year and 18 percent for the 5-yr. average.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Cattle were 94 percent calved compared with 95 percent last year and 94 percent for a 5-yr. average. Sheep condition ranged from poor to excellent, with most being in mostly fair to good condition. Sheep were 95 percent lambled compared with 96 percent last year and 96 percent for a 5-yr. average. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as fair to mostly good. Hay feed supplies were reported as adequate, but ranged from very short to adequate. Feed grain supplies were reported from very short to mostly adequate.

HAY

Hay condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | OATS | | WHEAT | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | PERCENT OF TOTAL ACRES PREPARED FOR SPRING PLANTING |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|----------|---|
| | PLANTED | EMERGED | PLANTED | EMERGED | HEADED | EMERGED | PLANTED | |
| 2003 | 20 | 7 | 72 | 60 | 5 | 90 | 4 | 71 |
| 2002 | 35 | NA | 75 | 45 | 30 | 98 | 20 | 65 |
| 5 YR AVG | 39 | NA | 76 | 41 | 23 | 93 | 18 | 75 |

NA = Not available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 11, 2003

| TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 17, 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|-----|----------------|-----------------|-------------|------|-----------------|-------|-------------|
| TEMPERATURE | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | |
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | WEEKS TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 80 | 51 | 64 | | | 1.49 | | 4.97 | 4.75 |
| PARKERSBURG | 85 | 53 | 68 | + 8 | | 3.16 | 0.88 | 6.95 | 6.18 |
| CRESTON | 82 | 52 | 65 | | | 3.39 | | 6.73 | 7.98 |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 81 | 54 | 65 | | | 3.70 | | 6.94 | 6.33 |
| CLARKSBURG | 82 | 50 | 65 | + 7 | | 2.71 | 0.90 | 6.47 | 6.17 |
| BELINGTON | 81 | 48 | 62 | | | 3.79 | | 8.59 | 9.44 |
| WESTON | 85 | 40 | 65 | | | 3.57 | | 8.79 | 7.54 |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 85 | 58 | 71 | | | 1.14 | | 7.03 | 8.10 |
| HUNTINGTON | 83 | 58 | 69 | + 7 | | 4.06 | 0.98 | 10.76 | 5.07 |
| CHARLESTON | 82 | 56 | 67 | + 6 | | 2.46 | 0.90 | 6.05 | 6.94 |
| RIPLEY | 84 | 54 | 67 | | | 2.13 | | 5.05 | 8.34 |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 81 | 46 | 61 | | | 3.49 | | 7.06 | 10.06 |
| ELKIN | 80 | 46 | 62 | + 7 | | 3.31 | 0.91 | 9.34 | 8.19 |
| MARLINTON | 75 | 42 | 57 | | | 2.16 | | 8.59 | 8.51 |
| BECKLEY | 77 | 50 | 63 | + 6 | | 1.60 | 0.91 | 7.63 | 7.20 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 82 | 56 | 68 | | | 1.66 | | 8.77 | 7.13 |
| BLUEFIELD | 79 | 49 | 66 | + 7 | | 1.25 | 0.91 | 5.95 | 6.56 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 84 | 47 | 62 | | | 1.65 | | 7.91 | 7.84 |
| FLAT TOP | 77 | 50 | 63 | | | 1.60 | | 7.63 | 7.20 |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 83 | 48 | 62 | + 4 | | 1.78 | 0.84 | 5.72 | 3.98 |
| ROMNEY | 84 | 43 | 61 | | | 2.70 | | 7.25 | 5.82 |
| MOOREFIELD | 89 | 46 | 63 | | | 2.80 | | 7.28 | 6.92 |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: May 18, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 11
FOR WEEK OF: May 19 - May 25

GENERAL

Rainfall continues to be a problem in most areas, delaying hay harvesting and causing disease and insect concerns for crops already planted.

Temperatures: Temperatures were well below normal for the week. The highest reported temperature was 83 degrees at Williamson. The lowest reported temperature was 38 degrees at Marlinton. The Statewide weekly average temperature was 58 degrees.

Precipitation: Rainfall was near of well below normal for the week. The Statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.91 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 2.0 last week. Total acres plowed that are intended for spring planted crops was 75 percent complete compared with 82 percent in 2002 and 89 percent for the 5-yr. average.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | PERCENT | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 43 | 57 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 45 | 55 |
| Last Year | -- | -- | 45 | 55 |

Farm activities included planting and hay harvesting when conditions allowed, repairing fences, cleaning remaining debris from areas hit by flooding and high winds.

FRUIT

Apple conditions were reported fair to good, with most in good condition. Peach conditions were reported fair to good, with most in good condition.

TOBACCO

Tobacco beds, including water beds, were 98 percent emerged, compared with 97 percent last year and 100 percent for the 5-yr. average. Transplanting to fields was 40 percent complete compared to 14 percent complete at this time last year and 20 percent for a 5-yr average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| | PERCENT | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | -- | 22 | 75 | 3 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | -- | 15 | 83 | 2 |
| Apples | -- | -- | 38 | 62 | -- |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 39 | 61 | 1 |
| Hay | -- | -- | 35 | 59 | 6 |
| Wheat | -- | 7 | 27 | 66 | 0 |
| Pasture | -- | 2 | 18 | 70 | 10 |

GRAINS

Corn was 42 percent planted, compared with 64 percent last year and 76 percent planted for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 23 percent emerged compared to 42 percent last year. Oats were 89 percent planted, compared with 83 percent last year and 90 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 76 percent emerged, compared with 55 percent emerged at this time last year and 65 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 50 percent headed, compared with 95 percent last year and 80 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybeans were 15 percent planted, compared with 9 percent at this time last year and 61 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 7 percent emerged, compared to 4 percent last year.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from fair to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep condition ranged from fair to excellent, with most being in mostly fair to good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good. Hay feed supplies were reported as adequate, but ranged from very short to adequate. Feed grain supplies were reported from very short to mostly adequate.

HAY

Hay condition ranged from fair to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | OATS | | WHEAT | TOBACCO | | SOYBEANS | | HAY | PERCENT OF TOTAL ACRES PREPARED FOR SPRING PLANTING |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|-------------------|----------|---------|---------------------|---|
| | PLANTED | EMERGED | PLANTED | EMERGED | HEADED | EMERGED | TRANS- PLANTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | 1 st Cut | |
| 2003 | 42 | 23 | 89 | 76 | 50 | 98 | 40 | 15 | 7 | 8 | 75 |
| 2002 | 64 | 42 | 83 | 55 | 95 | NA | 14 | 44 | 6 | 15 | 82 |
| 5 YR AVG | 61 | NA | 87 | 56 | 56 | 99 | 20 | 39 | NA | 12 | 85 |

NA = Not available

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 18, 2003

| TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 16, 2003 | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|-------|----------------|------|
| STATION | TEMPERATURE | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | | |
| | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | WEEKS TOTAL | WEEKS NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM | |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 74 | 42 | 58 | | | 0.79 | | 5.76 | 6.89 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 76 | 43 | 59 | - 3 | | 0.96 | 0.91 | 7.91 | 8.34 | 5.99 |
| CRESTON | 74 | 38 | 58 | | | 1.58 | | 8.31 | 10.57 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 71 | 39 | 57 | | | 1.38 | | 8.32 | 8.42 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 76 | 38 | 57 | - 3 | | 1.00 | 0.91 | 7.47 | 7.88 | 5.97 |
| BELINGTON | 73 | 35 | 55 | | | 1.54 | | 10.13 | 11.71 | |
| WESTON | 80 | 40 | 58 | | | 1.67 | | 10.46 | 9.99 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 78 | 45 | 62 | | | 1.54 | | 8.57 | 10.28 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 77 | 47 | 62 | - 2 | | 2.19 | 0.98 | 12.95 | 6.57 | 6.02 |
| CHARLESTON | 76 | 42 | 60 | - 3 | | 2.59 | 0.91 | 8.64 | 8.71 | 5.71 |
| RIPLEY | 76 | 42 | 60 | | | 1.68 | | 6.73 | 9.95 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 64 | 41 | 50 | | | 0.55 | | 7.61 | 12.53 | |
| ELKIN | 73 | 38 | 54 | - 3 | | 2.29 | 0.91 | 11.63 | 10.58 | 6.29 |
| MARLINTON | 68 | 32 | 49 | | | 2.41 | | 11.00 | 9.50 | |
| BECKLEY | 71 | 37 | 52 | - 8 | | 2.01 | 0.91 | 9.64 | 9.09 | 5.84 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| - PINEVILLE | 75 | 42 | 57 | | | 1.83 | | 10.60 | 8.70 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 73 | 38 | 54 | - 6 | | 1.98 | 0.91 | 7.93 | 7.29 | 5.92 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 73 | 38 | 54 | | | 3.30 | | 11.21 | 8.30 | |
| FLAT TOP | 71 | 37 | 52 | | | 2.01 | | 9.64 | 9.09 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 76 | 43 | 55 | - 5 | | 2.61 | 0.88 | 8.33 | 5.41 | 5.55 |
| ROMNEY | 76 | 38 | 52 | | | 1.21 | | 8.46 | 7.29 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 75 | 39 | 54 | | | 1.04 | | 8.32 | 8.60 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: May 27, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 11
FOR WEEK OF: May 19 - May 25

GENERAL

Rainfall continues to be a problem in most areas, delaying hay harvesting and causing disease and insect concerns for crops already planted.

Temperatures: Temperatures were well below normal for the week. The highest reported temperature was 83 degrees at Williamson. The lowest reported temperature was 38 degrees at Marlinton. The Statewide weekly average temperature was 58 degrees.

Precipitation: Rainfall was near of well below normal for the week. The Statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.91 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 2.0 last week. Total acres plowed that are intended for spring planted crops was 75 percent complete compared with 82 percent in 2002 and 89 percent for the 5-yr. average.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | PERCENT | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 43 | 57 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 45 | 55 |
| Last Year | -- | -- | 45 | 55 |

Farm activities included planting and hay harvesting when conditions allowed, repairing fences, cleaning remaining debris from areas hit by flooding and high winds.

FRUIT

Apple conditions were reported fair to good, with most in good condition. Peach conditions were reported fair to good, with most in good condition.

TOBACCO

Tobacco beds, including water beds, were 98 percent emerged, compared with 97 percent last year and 100 percent for the 5-yr. average. Transplanting to fields was 40 percent complete compared to 14 percent complete at this time last year and 20 percent for a 5-yr average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| | PERCENT | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | -- | 22 | 75 | 3 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | -- | 15 | 83 | 2 |
| Apples | -- | -- | 38 | 62 | -- |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 39 | 61 | 1 |
| Hay | -- | -- | 35 | 59 | 6 |
| Wheat | -- | 7 | 27 | 66 | 0 |
| Pasture | -- | 2 | 18 | 70 | 10 |

GRAINS

Corn was 42 percent planted, compared with 64 percent last year and 76 percent planted for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 23 percent emerged compared to 42 percent last year. Oats were 89 percent planted, compared with 83 percent last year and 90 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 76 percent emerged, compared with 55 percent emerged at this time last year and 65 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 50 percent headed, compared with 95 percent last year and 80 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybeans were 15 percent planted, compared with 9 percent at this time last year and 61 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 7 percent emerged, compared to 4 percent last year.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from fair to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep condition ranged from fair to excellent, with most being in mostly fair to good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good. Hay feed supplies were reported as adequate, but ranged from very short to adequate. Feed grain supplies were reported from very short to mostly adequate.

HAY

Hay condition ranged from fair to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | OATS | | WHEAT | TOBACCO | | SOYBEANS | | HAY | PERCENT OF TOTAL ACRES PREPARED FOR SPRING PLANTING |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|-------------------|----------|---------|---------------------|---|
| | PLANTED | EMERGED | PLANTED | EMERGED | HEADED | EMERGED | TRANS- PLANTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | 1 st Cut | |
| 2003 | 42 | 23 | 89 | 76 | 50 | 98 | 40 | 15 | 7 | 8 | 75 |
| 2002 | 64 | 42 | 83 | 55 | 95 | NA | 14 | 44 | 6 | 15 | 82 |
| 5 YR AVG | 61 | NA | 87 | 56 | 56 | 99 | 20 | 39 | NA | 12 | 85 |

NA = Not available

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 25, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|-------|---------------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | TOTAL | WEEKS NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 79 | 45 | 59 | | 1.00 | | 6.76 | 7.09 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 77 | 47 | 61 | - 4 | 1.15 | 0.91 | 9.06 | 8.57 | 6.90 |
| CRESTON | 77 | 43 | 58 | | 0.60 | | 8.91 | 10.61 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 74 | 42 | 58 | | 1.79 | | 10.11 | 8.61 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 80 | 42 | 57 | - 5 | 0.99 | 0.91 | 8.46 | 8.19 | 6.88 |
| BELINGTON | 76 | 40 | 57 | | 0.76 | | 10.89 | 11.96 | |
| WESTON | 79 | 45 | 59 | | 0.70 | | 11.16 | 10.21 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 83 | 50 | 63 | | 1.80 | | 10.37 | 10.38 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 80 | 47 | 61 | - 4 | 0.43 | 0.98 | 13.38 | 6.58 | 7.00 |
| CHARLESTON | 76 | 44 | 60 | - 5 | 0.08 | 0.91 | 8.72 | 8.73 | 6.62 |
| RIPLEY | 74 | 45 | 60 | | 0.51 | | 7.24 | 9.95 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 71 | 42 | 54 | | 0.98 | | 8.59 | 12.87 | |
| ELKIN | 75 | 42 | 57 | - 2 | 0.68 | 0.94 | 12.31 | 10.92 | 7.23 |
| MARLINTON | 69 | 38 | 52 | | 0.99 | | 11.99 | 9.50 | |
| BECKLEY | 69 | 44 | 56 | - 5 | 1.07 | 0.91 | 10.71 | 9.09 | 6.75 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| - PINEVILLE | 75 | 49 | 61 | | 1.73 | | 12.33 | 8.70 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 73 | 43 | 57 | - 5 | 0.59 | 0.88 | 8.52 | 7.36 | 6.80 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 72 | 42 | 56 | | 0.83 | | 12.04 | 8.35 | |
| FLAT TOP | 69 | 44 | 56 | | 1.07 | | 10.71 | 9.09 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 73 | 43 | 59 | - 4 | 1.47 | 0.90 | 9.80 | 6.92 | 6.45 |
| ROMNEY | 82 | 40 | 57 | | 0.47 | | 8.93 | 8.08 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 79 | 44 | 58 | | 0.24 | | 8.56 | 8.87 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: June 2, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 12
FOR WEEK OF: May 26 - June 1

GENERAL

Rain continues to limit farm activities. With only two days suitable for field work, most plantings and 1st cutting of hay have been delayed.

Temperatures: Temperatures were again below normal, generally 5 to 9 degrees below, for the week. The highest reported temperature was 79 degrees at Martinsburg and Romney. The lowest reported temperature was 33 degrees at Marlinton. Some scattered frost was reported in the higher mountain valleys on Monday morning. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 58 degrees.

Precipitation: Heavy rain fell across mainly northern West Virginia. The greatest amount was 3.27 inches at Terra Alta followed by 2.46 inches at Belington. The state-wide weekly average precipitation was 1.43 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 2.0 last week. Total acres plowed that are intended for spring planted crops was 78 percent complete compared with 90 percent in 2002 and 93 percent for the 5-yr. average.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | PERCENT | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 35 | 65 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 43 | 57 |
| Last Year | -- | 7 | 83 | 10 |

Farm activities included sheep shearing, tending livestock, repairing fences and, as weather permits, planting crops, clipping pastures, and cutting hay.

FRUIT

Rosy apple aphid populations have been very abundant in quite a few apple orchards. Based on degree day accumulations, egg hatch of first generation oriental fruit moth is virtually complete, with codling moth egg hatch about 9% complete. Apple conditions were reported fair to excellent, with most in good condition. Peach conditions were reported fair to excellent, with most in good condition.

TOBACCO

Tobacco beds, including water beds, were 40 percent transplanted to fields, compared with 35 percent complete at this time last year and 34 percent for a 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| | PERCENT | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | -- | 15 | 80 | 5 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | -- | 15 | 80 | 5 |
| Apples | -- | -- | 20 | 75 | 5 |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 5 | 90 | 5 |
| Hay | -- | -- | 35 | 55 | 10 |
| Wheat | -- | -- | 15 | 80 | 5 |
| Pasture | -- | 2 | 18 | 65 | 15 |
| Oats | -- | 5 | 35 | 60 | -- |
| Corn | -- | 10 | 30 | 60 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 50 percent planted, compared with 82 percent last year and 85 percent planted for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 28 percent emerged compared to 47 percent last year. Oats conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 95 percent planted, compared with 97 percent last year and 95 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 80 percent emerged, compared with 77 percent emerged at this time last year and 78 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from fair to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 90 percent headed, compared with 96 percent last year and 90 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybeans were 25 percent planted, compared with 60 percent at this time last year and 70 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 10 percent emerged, compared to 25 percent last year.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from fair to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep condition ranged from fair to excellent, with most being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good. Hay feed supplies were reported as adequate, but ranged from very short to adequate. Feed grain supplies were reported as adequate, but ranged from short to adequate.

HAY

Hay condition ranged from fair to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | OATS | | WHEAT | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | HAY 1 st Cut | PERCENT OF TOTAL ACRES PREPARED FOR SPRING PLANTING |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------------|----------|---------|----------------------------|--|
| | PLANTED | EMERGED | PLANTED | EMERGED | HEADED | TRANSPLANTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | | |
| 2003 | 50 | 28 | 95 | 80 | 90 | 40 | 25 | 10 | 10 | 78 |
| 2002 | 82 | 47 | 97 | 77 | 96 | 35 | 60 | 25 | 25 | 90 |
| 5 YR AVG | 85 | NA | 95 | 78 | 90 | 34 | 70 | NA | 21 | 93 |

NA = Not available

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 1, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | |
|---------------------|------|-----|----------------|-----------------|-------|------------|-----------------|-------|-------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | TOTAL | WEEKS NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| --NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 75 | 41 | 60 | | 1.16 | | 7.92 | 7.71 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 76 | 42 | 62 | - 5 | 1.48 | 0.85 | 10.54 | 8.76 | 7.75 |
| CRESTON | 74 | 38 | 59 | | 2.30 | | 11.21 | 11.28 | |
| --NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 73 | 38 | 58 | | 1.46 | | 11.57 | 10.42 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 72 | 38 | 59 | - 6 | 0.83 | 0.91 | 9.29 | 8.89 | 7.79 |
| BELINGTON | 70 | 36 | 56 | | 2.46 | | 13.35 | 12.49 | |
| WESTON | 74 | 40 | 61 | | 1.58 | | 12.74 | 10.76 | |
| --SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 77 | 44 | 62 | | 0.80 | | 11.17 | 12.91 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 77 | 43 | 62 | - 5 | 0.95 | 0.90 | 14.33 | 7.35 | 7.90 |
| CHARLESTON | 75 | 38 | 59 | - 8 | 1.16 | 0.85 | 9.88 | 8.90 | 7.47 |
| RIPLEY | 75 | 39 | 61 | | 1.56 | | 8.80 | 10.30 | |
| --CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 65 | 36 | 53 | | 3.27 | | 11.86 | 13.73 | |
| ELKIN | 70 | 36 | 55 | - 6 | 2.05 | 0.98 | 14.36 | 11.45 | 8.21 |
| MARLINTON | 67 | 33 | 50 | | 1.33 | | 13.32 | 9.78 | |
| BECKLEY | 68 | 35 | 54 | - 9 | 1.13 | 0.90 | 11.84 | 9.69 | 7.65 |
| --SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| - PINEVILLE | 72 | 42 | 59 | | 1.50 | | 13.83 | 9.83 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 71 | 36 | 56 | - 8 | 1.19 | 0.82 | 9.71 | 8.39 | 7.62 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 72 | 40 | 56 | | 1.42 | | 13.46 | 8.61 | |
| FLAT TOP | 68 | 35 | 54 | | 1.13 | | 11.84 | 9.60 | |
| --NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 79 | 42 | 60 | - 5 | 1.58 | 0.84 | 11.38 | 8.47 | 7.29 |
| ROMNEY | 79 | 36 | 59 | | 0.70 | | 9.63 | 9.27 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 77 | 37 | 59 | | 0.42 | | 8.98 | 9.40 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: June 9, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 13
FOR WEEK OF: June 2 - June 8

GENERAL

Excessive wet weather conditions over the state have made most field work difficult to impossible. Corn planting is behind, and some fields will need to be replanted. First hay cuttings have been slowed due to water-logged fields.

Temperatures: Daily high temperatures last week were mostly in the 60s and 70s. However, we did reach the 80 degree range by Sunday at a few locations. Overnight lows were in the 50s and 60s with some 40s by Friday morning. The highest reported temperature was 86 degrees at Huntington. The lowest reported temperature was 32 degrees at Martinsburg. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 61 degrees.

Precipitation: Rain fell over most of the state on four days last week. Over an inch fell in the North at scattered locations on Tuesday and half an inch or less elsewhere around the state. Saturday had the heaviest rainfall statewide with several locations reporting over an inch and many others approaching an inch. However, there were no flood problems in these rains. The state-wide weekly average precipitation was 2.15 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 2.0 last week. Total acres plowed that are intended for spring planted crops was 84 percent complete compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 96 percent for the 5-yr. average.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | PERCENT | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 25 | 75 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 35 | 65 |
| Last Year | -- | 7 | 87 | 6 |

Farm activities were virtually impossible due to wet weather conditions and only two days suitable for field work.

FRUIT

The second flight of spotted tentiform leafminer adults has begun in apple orchards. Based on degree day accumulations, egg hatch of first generation codling moth is estimated at 25% complete. Apple conditions were reported poor to fair, with half the fruit in poor and half in fair condition. Peach conditions were reported fair to excellent, with most in good condition.

TOBACCO

Tobacco beds, including water beds, were 40 percent transplanted to fields, compared with 67 percent complete at this time last year and 63 percent for a 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----|
| | PERCENT | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 1 | 18 | 76 | 5 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 12 | 82 | 5 |
| Apples | -- | 50 | 50 | -- | -- |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 5 | 90 | 5 |
| Hay | -- | 2 | 30 | 59 | 9 |
| Wheat | -- | -- | 15 | 85 | -- |
| Pasture | -- | 2 | 20 | 67 | 11 |
| Oats | 1 | 6 | 42 | 51 | -- |
| Corn | -- | 12 | 19 | 65 | 4 |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 57 percent planted, compared with 92 percent last year and 92 percent planted for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 46 percent emerged compared to 60 percent last year. Oats conditions ranged from very poor to good, but most fields were estimated as fair to good. The crop was 95 percent planted, compared with 100 percent last year and 98 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 90 percent emerged, compared with 80 percent emerged at this time last year and 82 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from fair to good, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 97 percent headed, compared with 96 percent last year and 92 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybeans were 47 percent planted, compared with 83 percent at this time last year and 80 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 23 percent emerged, compared to 55 percent last year.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep condition ranged from poor to excellent, with most being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good. Hay feed supplies were reported as adequate, but ranged from very short to adequate. Feed grain supplies were reported as adequate, but ranged from short to adequate.

HAY

Hay condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. First cutting was 12 percent complete compared with 43 percent last year and 34 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | OATS | | WHEAT | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | HAY | PERCENT OF TOTAL ACRES PREPARED FOR SPRING PLANTING |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------------|----------|---------|---------------------|---|
| | PLANTED | EMERGED | PLANTED | EMERGED | HEADED | TRANSPLANTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | 1 st Cut | |
| 2003 | 57 | 46 | 95 | 90 | 97 | 40 | 47 | 23 | 12 | 84 |
| 2002 | 92 | 60 | 100 | 80 | 96 | 67 | 83 | 55 | 43 | 100 |
| 5 YR AVG | 92 | NA | 98 | 82 | 92 | 63 | 80 | NA | 34 | 96 |

NA = Not available

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

| TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 8, 2003 | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-------|----------------|------|
| STATION | TEMPERATURE | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | |
| | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | TOTAL | WEEKS NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM | |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 82 | 42 | 62 | | | 1.67 | | 9.59 | 10.63 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 83 | 43 | 63 | - 5 | | 3.78 | 0.85 | 14.32 | 11.86 | 8.60 |
| CRESTON | 79 | 38 | 60 | | | 2.81 | | 14.02 | 13.91 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 81 | 50 | 63 | | | 2.76 | | 14.33 | 12.91 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 83 | 38 | 61 | - 6 | | 1.78 | 0.91 | 11.07 | 10.80 | 8.70 |
| BELINGTON | 79 | 35 | 58 | | | 1.77 | | 15.12 | 14.61 | |
| WESTON | 85 | 40 | 62 | | | 2.28 | | 15.02 | 12.93 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 84 | 44 | 64 | | | 1.66 | | 12.83 | 13.63 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 86 | 45 | 65 | - 4 | | 2.54 | 0.83 | 16.87 | 8.77 | 8.73 |
| CHARLESTON | 82 | 43 | 62 | - 7 | | 2.10 | 0.80 | 11.98 | 10.60 | 8.27 |
| RIPLEY | 81 | 40 | 62 | | | 2.53 | | 11.33 | 12.72 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 72 | 48 | 59 | | | 2.25 | | 14.11 | 15.07 | |
| ELKIN | 78 | 43 | 60 | - 3 | | 1.22 | 1.02 | 15.58 | 13.74 | 9.23 |
| MARLINTON | 77 | 33 | 55 | | | 2.81 | | 16.13 | 10.53 | |
| BECKLEY | 75 | 38 | 58 | - 6 | | 1.46 | 0.85 | 13.30 | 10.51 | 8.50 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 84 | 42 | 64 | | | 1.71 | | 15.54 | 10.65 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 80 | 37 | 61 | - 4 | | 1.19 | 0.77 | 10.90 | 9.41 | 8.39 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 81 | 40 | 60 | | | 1.47 | | 14.93 | 9.43 | |
| FLAT TOP | 75 | 38 | 58 | | | 1.46 | | 13.30 | 10.42 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 76 | 32 | 60 | - 7 | | 3.02 | 0.84 | 14.40 | 9.97 | 8.13 |
| ROMNEY | 83 | 42 | 60 | | | 3.02 | | 12.65 | 9.95 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 81 | 45 | 60 | | | 2.03 | | 11.01 | 10.16 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: June 16, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 14
FOR WEEK OF: June 9 - June 15

GENERAL

Heavy rains continue to cause major problems for crop and livestock across the state. Most fields are too wet for planting and hay cutting. Heavy rains and high winds have caused lodging in some hay fields.

Temperatures: Daily high temperatures last week were in the 70s to low 80s. Overnight lows were in the 50s and 60s. The highest reported temperature was 87 degrees at Huntington, Moorefield and Romney. The lowest reported temperature was 46 degrees at Marlinton. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 69 degrees.

Precipitation: Rain fell throughout most of the week with most locations receiving .25 of an inch or less each day. However, there were exceptions. The Charleston area received between 2.5 inches to 3.0 inches on Wednesday. The Martinsburg area received 1.0 to 1.5 inches on Friday. The state-wide weekly average precipitation was 1.56 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 2.0 last week. Total acres plowed that are intended for spring planted crops was 85 percent complete compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 100 percent for the 5-yr. average.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 21 | 79 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 25 | 75 |
| Last Year | -- | 8 | 84 | 8 |

Farm activities included very little hay cutting, however, some hay was wrapped for haylage.

FRUIT

Adult emergence of redbanded leafroller (second flight) in apple and peachtree borer in peach is just beginning. Spirea aphids are increasing on the terminals of apple trees. Based on degree day accumulations, egg hatch of first generation codling moth and tufted apple bud moth is estimated at 60% and 27% complete, respectively, and second generation egg hatch of oriental fruit moth is estimated at only 1% complete. Apple conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Peach conditions were reported fair to excellent, with most in good condition.

TOBACCO

Tobacco beds, including water beds, were 50 percent transplanted to fields, compared with 72 percent complete at this time last year and 73 percent for a 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 2 | 19 | 76 | 3 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 3 | 14 | 78 | 5 |
| Apples | -- | 25 | 25 | 45 | 5 |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 10 | 85 | 5 |
| Hay | 2 | 6 | 25 | 53 | 14 |
| Wheat | -- | 16 | 19 | 65 | -- |
| Pasture | -- | 2 | 18 | 68 | 12 |
| Oats | 2 | 7 | 35 | 56 | -- |
| Corn | -- | 17 | 22 | 58 | 3 |
| Soybeans | -- | -- | 1 | 99 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 60 percent planted, compared with 93 percent last year and 94 percent planted for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 50 percent emerged, compared to 70 percent last year. Oats conditions ranged from very poor to good, but most fields were estimated as good. Fields were 97 percent emerged, compared with 95 percent emerged at this time last year and 90 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 12 percent headed, compared with 33 percent last year and 32 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 98 percent headed, compared with 97 percent last year and 94 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybeans conditions ranged from fair to mostly good. The crop was 50 percent planted, compared with 84 percent at this time last year and 86 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 30 percent emerged, compared to 62 percent last year.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep condition ranged from poor to excellent, with most being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good. Hay feed supplies were reported as adequate, but ranged from very short to adequate. Feed grain supplies were reported as adequate, but ranged from very short to adequate.

HAY

Hay condition ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. First cutting was 13 percent complete compared with 53 percent last year and 48 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | OATS | | WHEAT | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | HAY | PERCENT OF TOTAL ACRES PREPARED FOR SPRING PLANTING |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------------|----------|---------|---------------------|--|
| | PLANTED | EMERGED | EMERGED | HEADED | HEADED | TRANSPLANTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | 1 st Cut | |
| 2003 | 60 | 50 | 97 | 12 | 98 | 50 | 50 | 30 | 13 | 85 |
| 2002 | 93 | 70 | 95 | 33 | 97 | 72 | 84 | 62 | 53 | 100 |
| 5 YR AVG | 94 | NA | 90 | 32 | 94 | 73 | 86 | NA | 48 | 100 |

NA = Not available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 15, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | WEEKS TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 83 | 56 | 71 | | | 0.80 | | 10.39 | 10.90 |
| PARKERSBURG | 85 | 57 | 72 | + 2 | | 2.51 | 0.84 | 16.83 | 12.32 |
| CRESTON | 83 | 50 | 67 | | | 0.92 | | 14.94 | 15.02 |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 82 | 54 | 70 | | | 0.74 | | 15.07 | 13.87 |
| CLARKSBURG | 85 | 54 | 70 | + 2 | | 0.94 | 0.92 | 12.01 | 13.16 |
| BELINGTON | 83 | 53 | 69 | | | 0.78 | | 15.90 | 15.49 |
| WESTON | 85 | 52 | 71 | | | 1.52 | | 16.54 | 15.62 |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 86 | 55 | 73 | | | 3.29 | | 16.12 | 15.25 |
| HUNTINGTON | 87 | 56 | 73 | + 2 | | 0.75 | 0.77 | 17.62 | 9.11 |
| CHARLESTON | 83 | 53 | 70 | - 1 | | 2.67 | 0.77 | 14.65 | 11.32 |
| RIPLEY | 84 | 54 | 71 | | | 0.97 | | 12.30 | 14.50 |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 78 | 53 | 65 | | | 2.29 | | 16.40 | 16.41 |
| ELKIN | 84 | 50 | 67 | + 3 | | 0.78 | 1.05 | 16.36 | 14.89 |
| MARLINTON | 78 | 46 | 63 | | | 1.42 | | 17.55 | 10.79 |
| BECKLEY | 78 | 47 | 65 | - 1 | | 1.54 | 0.85 | 14.84 | 10.85 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 85 | 53 | 71 | | | 3.01 | | 18.55 | 11.42 |
| BLUEFIELD | 83 | 48 | 68 | + 1 | | 1.45 | 0.70 | 12.35 | 10.27 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 84 | 48 | 69 | | | 1.01 | | 15.94 | 9.85 |
| FLAT TOP | 78 | 47 | 65 | | | 1.54 | | 14.84 | 10.76 |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 85 | 54 | 72 | + 3 | | 2.17 | 0.82 | 16.57 | 12.24 |
| ROMNEY | 87 | 51 | 70 | | | 1.58 | | 14.23 | 10.51 |
| MOOREFIELD | 87 | 53 | 71 | | | 1.65 | | 12.66 | 11.23 |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: June 23, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 15
FOR WEEK OF: June 16 - June 22

GENERAL

Weather conditions continue to be wet and cool causing crop conditions to worsen and causing delays in haying and plantings. Most fields were too wet and muddy for equipment. First hay cutting is too mature to be of good quality.

Temperatures: Temperatures were cool for most of the week then the sun appeared during the weekend and a warm up began. The highest reported temperature was 86 degrees along the Ohio Valley at Parkersburg. The lowest reported temperature was 41 degrees at Terra Alta and Romney. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 64 degrees.

Precipitation: Considerable rain fell across the mountain state during the past week. Flooding was observed in numerous locations. The heaviest rains occurred in the south with Pineville topping the list with 4.49 inches. The least amount of rain, 0.53 inches, fell in Charleston. The state-wide weekly average precipitation was 1.96 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 1.0 last week. Total acres plowed that are intended for spring planted crops remains at 85 percent complete compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 100 percent for the 5-yr. average.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 16 | 84 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 21 | 79 |
| Last Year | 2 | 28 | 68 | 2 |

Farm activities were limited, with only 1.0 day suitable for field work.

FRUIT

The second flight of redbanded leafroller adults has begun in apple orchards. Based on degree day accumulations, egg hatch of first generation codling moth, first generation tufted apple bud moth, and second generation oriental fruit moth is estimated at 80, 52, and 6 percent complete, respectively. Apple conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in fair to good condition. Peach conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition.

TOBACCO

Tobacco beds, including water beds, were 50 percent transplanted to fields, compared with 89 percent complete at this time last year and 84 percent for a 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 2 | 21 | 73 | 4 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 13 | 82 | 4 |
| Apples | -- | 10 | 46 | 43 | 1 |
| Peaches | -- | 6 | 35 | 58 | 1 |
| Hay | 5 | 12 | 27 | 45 | 11 |
| Wheat | -- | 3 | 20 | 77 | -- |
| Pasture | 1 | 3 | 17 | 59 | 20 |
| Oats | -- | 15 | 48 | 37 | -- |
| Corn | 4 | 16 | 36 | 43 | 1 |
| Soybeans | -- | -- | 42 | 58 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as fair to good. The crop was 65 percent planted. Fields were 55 percent emerged, compared to 90 percent last year. Oat conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as fair. Fields were 20 percent headed, compared with 49 percent emerged at this time last year and 41 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 5 percent harvested, compared with 15 percent last year and 6 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from fair to mostly good. The crop was 55 percent planted, compared with 94 percent at this time last year and 92 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 35 percent emerged, compared to 83 percent last year.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Some cases of pinkeye in cattle were reported. Sheep condition ranged from poor to excellent, with most being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most were reported as good. Hay feed supplies were reported as mostly adequate, but ranged from very short to adequate. Feed grain supplies were reported as mostly adequate, but ranged from very short to adequate.

HAY

Hay conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. First cutting was 18 percent complete, compared with 75 percent last year and 65 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | Oats | WHEAT | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | HAY | PERCENT OF TOTAL ACRES PREPARED FOR SPRING PLANTING |
|----------|---------|---------|--------|-----------|--------------|----------|---------|---------------------|---|
| | PLANTED | EMERGED | HEADED | HARVESTED | TRANSPLANTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | 1 st Cut | |
| 2003 | 65 | 55 | 20 | 5 | 50 | 55 | 35 | 18 | 85 |
| 2002 | NA | 90 | 49 | 15 | 89 | 94 | 83 | 75 | 100 |
| 5 YR AVG | NA | NA | 41 | 6 | 84 | 92 | NA | 65 | 100 |

NA = Not available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

| TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 22, 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|-----|---------|-----------|-------|---------------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| TEMPERATURE | | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | |
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY | | WEEKS | | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | AVERAGE | DEPARTURE | TOTAL | NORM | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 84 | 52 | 66 | | | 0.89 | | 11.28 | 10.98 |
| PARKERSBURG | 86 | 52 | 67 | - 4 | | 1.47 | 0.84 | 18.30 | 12.32 |
| CRESTON | 81 | 48 | 65 | | | 1.07 | | 16.01 | 15.02 |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 80 | 52 | 64 | | | 0.74 | | 15.81 | 13.93 |
| CLARKSBURG | 81 | 51 | 66 | - 3 | | 2.35 | 0.98 | 14.36 | 13.16 |
| BELINGTON | 79 | 47 | 63 | | | 1.57 | | 17.47 | 15.49 |
| WESTON | 84 | 53 | 67 | | | 3.22 | | 19.76 | 15.62 |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 83 | 49 | 68 | | | 2.34 | | 18.46 | 15.25 |
| HUNTINGTON | 85 | 51 | 69 | - 3 | | 1.66 | 0.78 | 19.28 | 9.11 |
| CHARLESTON | 81 | 48 | 66 | - 6 | | 0.53 | 0.84 | 15.18 | 11.32 |
| RIPLEY | 83 | 50 | 67 | | | 3.01 | | 15.31 | 14.50 |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 77 | 41 | 61 | | | 1.60 | | 18.00 | 16.41 |
| ELKIN | 79 | 49 | 62 | - 4 | | 1.64 | 1.05 | 18.00 | 14.89 |
| MARLINTON | 73 | 43 | 57 | | | 1.49 | | 19.04 | 11.04 |
| BECKLEY | 73 | 45 | 60 | - 7 | | 2.30 | 0.91 | 17.14 | 10.87 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 80 | 52 | 66 | | | 4.49 | | 23.04 | 11.42 |
| BLUEFIELD | 79 | 46 | 62 | - 6 | | 1.06 | 0.74 | 13.41 | 10.42 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 77 | 48 | 62 | | | 2.19 | | 18.13 | 9.90 |
| FLAT TOP | 73 | 45 | 60 | | | 2.30 | | 17.14 | 10.78 |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 82 | 53 | 65 | - 5 | | 3.31 | 0.82 | 19.88 | 12.25 |
| ROMNEY | 85 | 41 | 62 | | | 1.95 | | 16.18 | 10.51 |
| MOOREFIELD | 84 | 51 | 64 | | | 1.95 | | 14.61 | 11.23 |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.



West Virginia
Agricultural
Statistics Service

CROP-WEATHER BULLETIN

In Cooperation with:
US Department of Commerce-NOAA
USDA Farm Service Agency
WVU Extension Service
WV Dept. of Agriculture
USDA Farm Service Agency
Phone: (304) 558-2217
Fax: (304) 558-0297
Homepage: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/wv>

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: June 30, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 16
FOR WEEK OF: June 23 - June 29

GENERAL

Weather conditions finally improved to allow for haying and planting to resume. There remains concern as to the amount of growing time left for corn for grain and soybeans. First hay cutting is too mature to be of good quality.

Temperatures: Average temperatures were near or below normal. The eastern panhandle was again the exception. Highs in the 90s were common there. The highest reported temperature was 93 degrees at Romney. The lowest reported temperature was 45 degrees at Marlinton. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 70 degrees.

Precipitation: Compared to the first three weeks of June, this past week was relatively dry. A few isolated thunderstorms dumped rain over the southern sections of the state. However, rainfall amounts were not significant. The eastern panhandle was the driest section with no rain reported by the three observing stations located there. The state-wide weekly average precipitation was 0.12 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 6.0 last week. Total acres plowed that are intended for spring planted crops was 95 percent complete compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 100 percent for the 5-yr. average.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|-----------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 74 | 26 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 16 | 84 |
| Last Year | 4 | 23 | 72 | 1 |

Farm activities included haying and planting of corn and soybeans, as well as any work delayed by the recent cool and wet weather.

FRUIT

Second generation sap-feeder mines of spotted tentiform leafminer can be found in some apple orchards. Based on accumulated degree days, egg hatch of first generation codling moth, first generation tufted apple bud moth, and second generation oriental fruit moth is estimated at 95, 89 and 26 percent complete, respectively. Apple conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in poor to good condition. Peach conditions were reported fair to excellent, with most in good condition.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|--------------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 2 | 21 | 74 | 3 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 3 | 15 | 77 | 5 |
| Apples | -- | 27 | 37 | 34 | 2 |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 2 | 96 | 2 |
| Hay | 1 | 5 | 28 | 51 | 15 |
| Wheat | -- | 3 | 11 | 86 | -- |
| Pasture | 1 | 2 | 20 | 63 | 14 |
| Oats | -- | 2 | 51 | 47 | -- |
| Corn | -- | 6 | 46 | 47 | 1 |
| Soybeans | -- | -- | 30 | 70 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as fair to good. The crop was 89 percent planted compared with 100 percent last year and 99 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 71 percent emerged, compared to 92 percent last year. Oat conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as fair to good. Fields were 46 percent headed, compared with 64 percent emerged at this time last year and 66 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 8 percent harvested, compared with 29 percent last year and 12 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from fair to mostly good. The crop was 78 percent planted. The crop was 55 percent emerged, compared to 85 percent last year.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep condition ranged from poor to excellent, with most being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most were reported as good. Hay feed supplies were reported as mostly adequate, but ranged from very short to adequate. Feed grain supplies were reported as mostly adequate, but ranged from very short to adequate.

HAY

Hay conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. First cutting was 50 percent complete, compared with 85 percent last year and 75 percent for the 5-yr. average.

TOBACCO

Tobacco beds, including water beds, were 86 percent transplanted to fields, compared with 100 percent complete at this time last year and 94 percent for a 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | Oats | WHEAT | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | HAY | PERCENT OF TOTAL ACRES PREPARED FOR SPRING PLANTING |
|----------|---------|---------|--------|-----------|--------------|----------|---------|---------------------|--|
| | PLANTED | EMERGED | HEADED | HARVESTED | TRANSPLANTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | 1 st Cut | |
| 2003 | 89 | 71 | 46 | 8 | 86 | 78 | 55 | 50 | 95 |
| 2002 | 100 | 92 | 64 | 29 | 100 | NA | 85 | 85 | 100 |
| 5 YR AVG | 99 | NA | 66 | 12 | 94 | NA | NA | 75 | 100 |

NA = Not available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 29, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | WEEKS TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 89 | 54 | 72 | | | 0.12 | | 11.40 | 11.70 |
| PARKERSBURG | 92 | 56 | 74 | + 1 | | 0.00 | 0.90 | 18.30 | 13.04 |
| CRESTON | 87 | 51 | 69 | | | 0.00 | | 16.01 | 16.82 |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 87 | 51 | 71 | | | 0.02 | | 15.83 | 15.45 |
| CLARKSBURG | 89 | 52 | 70 | - 1 | | 0.01 | 0.98 | 14.37 | 13.83 |
| BELINGTON | 86 | 48 | 67 | | | 0.01 | | 17.48 | 16.90 |
| WESTON | 90 | 53 | 72 | | | 0.40 | | 20.16 | 16.37 |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 91 | 58 | 74 | | | 1.10 | | 19.56 | 15.98 |
| HUNTINGTON | 90 | 55 | 73 | 0 | | 0.00 | 0.87 | 19.28 | 9.87 |
| CHARLESTON | 88 | 51 | 70 | - 3 | | 0.12 | 0.92 | 15.30 | 11.81 |
| RIPLEY | 89 | 55 | 71 | | | 0.00 | | 15.31 | 15.44 |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 81 | 47 | 66 | | | 0.11 | | 18.11 | 17.06 |
| ELKIN | 87 | 49 | 67 | 0 | | 0.00 | 1.05 | 18.00 | 15.88 |
| MARLINTON | 82 | 45 | 62 | | | 0.25 | | 19.29 | 12.75 |
| BECKLEY | 82 | 47 | 63 | - 5 | | 0.05 | 0.96 | 17.19 | 11.90 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 87 | 53 | 71 | | | 0.00 | | 23.04 | 12.32 |
| BLUEFIELD | 85 | 47 | 67 | - 2 | | 0.10 | 0.80 | 13.51 | 11.19 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 86 | 50 | 67 | | | 0.37 | | 18.50 | 10.68 |
| FLAT TOP | 82 | 47 | 63 | | | 0.05 | | 17.19 | 11.93 |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 90 | 57 | 73 | + 2 | | 0.00 | 0.84 | 19.88 | 13.36 |
| ROMNEY | 93 | 52 | 72 | | | 0.00 | | 16.18 | 10.62 |
| MOOREFIELD | 91 | 54 | 72 | | | 0.00 | | 14.61 | 11.33 |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: July 7, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 17
FOR WEEK OF: June 30 - July 6

GENERAL

Weather continued to allow for haying, planting and some small grain harvesting. The concern for the amount of growing time left for corn for grain and soybeans remains. First hay cutting is too mature to be of good quality. Some pest problems were reported due to damp conditions.

Temperatures: Above average temperatures were seen over the area except for the southern coal fields. The highest reported temperature was 93 degrees at Huntington, Moorefield and Romney. The lowest reported temperature was 50 degrees at Weston. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 73 degrees.

Precipitation: Due to the large amount of moisture in the atmosphere, any thunderstorms produced heavy rainfall amounts during the week. Where these thunderstorms occurred, way above normal precipitation occurred. The Northwest and Northeastern sections received the least amount of rain during the period. The state-wide weekly average precipitation was 1.45 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 5.6 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current Week | -- | 4 | 81 | 15 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 74 | 26 |
| Last Year | 5 | 50 | 45 | -- |

Farm activities included haying, planting and harvesting wheat.

FRUIT

European red mites are increasing in some apple orchards. Japanese beetles are beginning to emerge in apple and peach orchards. Based on accumulated degree days since biofix (first moth capture in traps), egg hatch of first generation codling moth and tufted apple bud moth is estimated at 100% complete, and egg hatch of second generation oriental fruit moth is estimated at 65% complete. Apple conditions were reported poor to good, with most in fair to good condition. Peach conditions were reported poor to good, with most in good condition.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 1 | 24 | 69 | 6 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 14 | 78 | 7 |
| Apples | -- | 10 | 45 | 45 | -- |
| Peaches | -- | 7 | 34 | 59 | -- |
| Hay | 1 | 6 | 29 | 55 | 9 |
| Wheat | -- | 2 | 22 | 76 | -- |
| Pasture | 1 | 2 | 17 | 65 | 15 |
| Oats | -- | 2 | 47 | 45 | 6 |
| Corn | -- | 6 | 37 | 53 | 4 |
| Soybeans | -- | 1 | 26 | 68 | 5 |
| Tobacco | -- | 6 | 38 | 56 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 94 percent planted compared with 100 percent last year and 100 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 82 percent emerged. Oat conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as fair to good. Fields were 60 percent headed, compared with 75 percent emerged at this time last year and 81 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 10 percent harvested, compared with 70 percent last year and 41 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported as good. The crop was 87 percent planted, compared with 100 percent last year and 98 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 70 percent emerged.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep condition ranged from poor to excellent, with most being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.

HAY

Hay conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. First cutting was 66 percent complete, compared with 92 percent last year and 84 percent for the 5-yr. average.

TOBACCO

Tobacco beds, including water beds, were 98 percent transplanted to fields, compared with 100 percent complete at this time last year and 99 percent for a 5-yr. average. Tobacco conditions ranged from poor to mostly good.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | Oats | WHEAT | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | HAY |
|----------|---------|---------|--------|-----------|--------------|----------|---------|---------------------|
| | PLANTED | EMERGED | HEADED | HARVESTED | TRANSPLANTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | 1 st Cut |
| 2003 | 94 | 82 | 60 | 10 | 98 | 87 | 70 | 66 |
| 2002 | 100 | NA | 75 | 70 | 100 | 100 | NA | 92 |
| 5 YR AVG | 100 | NA | 81 | 41 | 99 | 98 | NA | 84 |

NA = Not available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

| TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 6, 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| STATION | TEMPERATURE | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | SEASON NORM |
| | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | TOTAL | WEEKS NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 90 | 62 | 76 | | 0.48 | | 11.88 | 11.70 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 92 | 65 | 78 | + 5 | 0.43 | 0.91 | 18.73 | 13.76 | 12.09 |
| CRESTON | 89 | 57 | 74 | | 0.11 | | 16.12 | 16.76 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 90 | 58 | 74 | | 2.77 | | 18.60 | 15.76 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 90 | 60 | 74 | + 2 | 1.77 | 0.93 | 16.14 | 13.89 | 12.51 |
| BELINGTON | 87 | 57 | 72 | | 0.16 | | 17.64 | 16.96 | |
| WESTON | 92 | 50 | 73 | | 1.68 | | 21.84 | 16.37 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 92 | 66 | 77 | | 0.52 | | 20.08 | 16.84 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 93 | 60 | 77 | + 3 | 0.96 | 0.96 | 20.24 | 9.97 | 12.11 |
| CHARLESTON | 90 | 63 | 75 | + 1 | 0.81 | 1.03 | 16.11 | 11.92 | 11.83 |
| RIPLEY | 90 | 61 | 75 | | 1.24 | | 16.55 | 15.55 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 81 | 59 | 70 | | 4.15 | | 22.26 | 17.33 | |
| ELKIN | 88 | 56 | 72 | + 4 | 0.62 | 1.05 | 18.62 | 16.22 | 13.43 |
| MARLINTON | 82 | 51 | 66 | | 0.99 | | 20.28 | 13.34 | |
| BECKLEY | 82 | 56 | 68 | - 1 | 2.40 | 1.03 | 19.59 | 12.95 | 12.25 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 87 | 64 | 74 | | 3.14 | | 26.18 | 14.25 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 84 | 57 | 68 | - 1 | 3.21 | 0.89 | 16.72 | 12.46 | 11.52 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 85 | 54 | 70 | | 3.27 | | 21.77 | 11.63 | |
| FLAT TOP | 82 | 56 | 68 | | 2.40 | | 19.59 | 12.98 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 91 | 61 | 75 | + 3 | 0.63 | 0.84 | 20.51 | 13.36 | 11.45 |
| ROMNEY | 93 | 56 | 75 | | 0.11 | | 16.29 | 10.66 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 93 | 62 | 76 | | 0.12 | | 14.73 | 12.54 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: July 14, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 18
FOR WEEK OF: July 7 - July 13

GENERAL

Weather extremes disrupted most farming activities. A series of heavy thunderstorms crossed the state the past week.

Temperatures: Temperatures were warm, but not record-breaking. Readings in the 90s were common in the Southwest, but even there weekly averages were near the normal. The highest reported temperature was 94 degrees at Parkersburg. The lowest reported temperature was 50 degrees at Marlinton. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 72 degrees.

Precipitation: Wet weather continued across the region this week. Heavy thunderstorms dumped as much as five inches of rain in a few locations. The heaviest amounts were generally over the northern half of the state and were associated with a severe weather/flooding outbreak late in the week. The state-wide weekly average precipitation was 2.43 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 3.5 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 67 | 33 |
| Last Week | -- | 4 | 81 | 15 |
| Last Year | 3 | 22 | 73 | 2 |

Farm activities included haying, planting and limited grain harvesting. Some pest problems were reported in both crops and livestock due to damp conditions.

FRUIT

Japanese beetles continue to emerge and have been observed feeding on apple foliage. Based on degree day accumulations, egg hatch of second generation codling moth is just beginning (2 percent complete) on apple, and is almost over (91percent complete) for oriental fruit moth on peach. Apple conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in fair to good condition. Peach conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition.

TOBACCO

Tobacco conditions ranged from poor to good, with most in mostly fair to good condition. Topping was 1 percent complete.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 1 | 23 | 71 | 5 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 15 | 78 | 6 |
| Apples | -- | 10 | 46 | 43 | 1 |
| Peaches | -- | 7 | 34 | 58 | 1 |
| Hay | 1 | 8 | 34 | 48 | 9 |
| Wheat | -- | 7 | 45 | 48 | -- |
| Pasture | -- | 3 | 18 | 67 | 12 |
| Oats | -- | 13 | 48 | 34 | 5 |
| Corn | -- | 10 | 30 | 54 | 6 |
| Soybeans | -- | 1 | 25 | 74 | -- |
| Tobacco | -- | 12 | 47 | 41 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 95 percent planted compared with 100 percent last year and 100 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 90 percent emerged. The crop was 2 percent in silk stage compared with 14 percent in 2002 and 15 percent for the 5-yr. average. Oat conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as fair. Fields were 77 percent headed, compared with 87 percent emerged at this time last year and 87 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as fair to good. The crop was 38 percent harvested, compared with 88 percent last year and 59 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were reported as good. The crop was 93 percent planted, compared with 100 percent last year and 99 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 82 percent emerged. Soybeans were 2 percent blooming, compared with 13 percent in 2002 and 11 percent for the 5-yr. average.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep condition ranged from poor to excellent, with most being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.

HAY

Hay condition ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. First cutting was 70 percent complete, compared with 95 percent last year and 90 percent for the 5-yr. average. Second cutting was 1 percent complete, compared with 28 percent in 2002 and 19 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | | OATS | | WHEAT | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | | HAY | |
|----------|---------|---------|--------|--------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | PLANTED | EMERGED | SILKED | HEADED | HARVESTED | HARVESTED | TOPPED | PLANTED | EMERGED | BLOOMING | 1 st Cut | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 95 | 90 | 2 | 77 | 7 | 38 | 1 | 93 | 82 | 2 | 70 | 1 |
| 2002 | 100 | NA | 14 | 87 | 12 | 88 | NA | 100 | NA | 13 | 95 | 28 |
| 5 YR AVG | 100 | NA | 15 | 87 | 8 | 59 | NA | 99 | NA | 11 | 90 | 19 |

NA = Not available

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 13, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|------|-----------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | WEEKS TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM | |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 89 | 59 | 74 | | | 2.35 | | 14.23 | 11.99 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 94 | 60 | 75 | + 1 | | 4.79 | 0.96 | 23.52 | 15.96 | 13.05 |
| CRESTON | 91 | 58 | 73 | | | 2.39 | | 18.51 | 18.33 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 87 | 57 | 72 | | | 5.63 | | 24.23 | 16.84 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 89 | 59 | 73 | + 1 | | 3.54 | 0.93 | 19.68 | 15.99 | 13.44 |
| BELINGTON | 86 | 53 | 71 | | | 1.40 | | 19.04 | 19.63 | |
| WESTON | 90 | 58 | 75 | | | 2.43 | | 24.27 | 21.27 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 92 | 63 | 76 | | | 1.65 | | 21.73 | 19.04 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 91 | 61 | 76 | + 1 | | 1.57 | 1.05 | 21.81 | 11.66 | 13.16 |
| CHARLESTON | 90 | 58 | 74 | - 1 | | 2.39 | 1.03 | 18.50 | 13.24 | 12.96 |
| RIPLEY | 91 | 59 | 74 | | | 1.82 | | 18.37 | 16.80 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 79 | 53 | 67 | | | 4.28 | | 26.54 | 20.47 | |
| ELKIN | 88 | 54 | 71 | + 3 | | 3.51 | 1.05 | 22.13 | 20.79 | 14.48 |
| MARLINTON | 81 | 50 | 66 | | | 1.52 | | 21.80 | 15.96 | |
| BECKLEY | 81 | 54 | 68 | - 1 | | 1.66 | 1.11 | 21.25 | 14.24 | 13.36 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 87 | 60 | 73 | | | 2.16 | | 28.34 | 15.33 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 85 | 53 | 70 | + 1 | | 1.50 | 0.98 | 18.22 | 13.65 | 12.50 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 88 | 56 | 71 | | | 1.43 | | 23.20 | 14.29 | |
| FLAT TOP | 81 | 54 | 68 | | | 1.66 | | 21.25 | 14.27 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 89 | 56 | 73 | 0 | | 0.92 | 0.90 | 21.43 | 15.75 | 12.35 |
| ROMNEY | 91 | 53 | 73 | | | 1.73 | | 18.02 | 13.87 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 91 | 56 | 74 | | | 3.10 | | 17.83 | 15.25 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service

RELEASED: July 21, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 19

FOR WEEK OF: July 14 - July 20

GENERAL

Weather was more favorable for most farming activities. Farmers are slowly catching up with 1st cutting of hay and small grain harvesting.

Temperatures: Temperatures averaged 2 to 3 degrees below normal. No 90 degree temperatures were reported. The highest reported temperature was 89 degrees at Parkersburg, Weston and Williamson. The lowest reported temperature was 48 degrees at Belington. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 71 degrees.

Precipitation: Rainfall was scattered for the week. The heaviest rain fell from the Charleston to Huntington region. The state-wide weekly average precipitation was 0.50 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 5.0 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current Week | -- | 1 | 90 | 9 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 67 | 33 |
| Last Year | 3 | 28 | 68 | 1 |

Farm activities included haying, planting and small grain harvesting.

FRUIT

Apple conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Peach conditions were reported fair to excellent, with most in good condition.

TOBACCO

Tobacco conditions ranged from poor to good, with most in fair to good condition. Topping was 2 percent complete.

HAY

Hay condition ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. First cutting was 84 percent complete, compared with 100 percent last year and 96 percent for the 5-yr. average. Second cutting was 5 percent complete, compared with 38 percent in 2002 and 28 percent for the 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 2 | 16 | 74 | 8 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 15 | 80 | 4 |
| Apples | -- | 5 | 20 | 70 | 5 |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 5 | 90 | 5 |
| Hay | 1 | 6 | 32 | 53 | 8 |
| Wheat | -- | 35 | 54 | 11 | -- |
| Pasture | -- | 4 | 12 | 69 | 15 |
| Oats | -- | 13 | 31 | 49 | 7 |
| Corn | 1 | 9 | 21 | 62 | 7 |
| Soybeans | -- | 1 | 18 | 69 | 12 |
| Tobacco | -- | 18 | 41 | 41 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. Fields were 99 percent emerged. The crop was 7 percent in silk stage compared with 38 percent in 2002 and 26 percent for the 5-yr. average. Oat conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. Fields were 99 percent headed, compared with 94 percent headed at this time last year and 95 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as fair. The crop was 50 percent harvested, compared with 99 percent last year and 73 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported as good. The crop was 96 percent planted, compared with 100 percent last year and 100 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 93 percent emerged. Soybeans were 5 percent blooming, compared with 42 percent in 2002 and 24 percent for the 5-yr. average.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep condition ranged from poor to excellent, with most being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | OATS | | WHEAT | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | | HAY | |
|----------|---------|--------|--------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | EMERGED | SILKED | HEADED | HARVESTED | HARVESTED | TOPPED | PLANTED | EMERGED | BLOOMING | 1 st Cut | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 99 | 7 | 99 | 19 | 50 | 2 | 96 | 93 | 5 | 84 | 5 |
| 2002 | NA | 38 | 94 | 38 | 99 | NA | 100 | NA | 42 | 100 | 38 |
| 5 YR AVG | NA | 26 | 95 | 19 | 73 | NA | 100 | NA | 24 | 96 | 28 |

NA = Not available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 20, 2003

| TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 29, 2000 | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-----|----------------|-----------------|-------------|------|-----------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| STATION | TEMPERATURE | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | | |
| | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | WEEKS TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM | |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 87 | 58 | 72 | | | 0.54 | | 14.77 | 14.60 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 89 | 57 | 73 | - 2 | | 0.43 | 0.98 | 23.95 | 16.84 | 14.03 |
| CRESTON | 87 | 55 | 70 | | | 0.57 | | 19.08 | 19.23 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 85 | 53 | 71 | | | 0.69 | | 24.92 | 18.39 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 87 | 54 | 71 | - 2 | | 0.50 | 0.91 | 20.18 | 16.33 | 14.35 |
| BELINGTON | 85 | 48 | 67 | | | 0.32 | | 19.36 | 20.00 | |
| WESTON | 89 | 50 | 71 | | | 0.90 | | 25.17 | 21.92 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 89 | 65 | 77 | | | 0.59 | | 22.32 | 20.69 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 87 | 60 | 73 | - 2 | | 1.51 | 1.10 | 23.32 | 11.73 | 14.26 |
| CHARLESTON | 87 | 57 | 72 | - 3 | | 0.82 | 1.19 | 19.32 | 13.51 | 14.15 |
| RIPLEY | 86 | 56 | 72 | | | 0.13 | | 18.50 | 17.47 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 80 | 50 | 66 | | | 0.10 | | 26.64 | 20.94 | |
| ELKIN | 85 | 51 | 68 | - 1 | | 0.28 | 1.04 | 22.41 | 21.15 | 15.52 |
| MARLINTON | 78 | 50 | 64 | | | 0.62 | | 22.42 | 16.41 | |
| BECKLEY | 79 | 55 | 67 | - 3 | | 0.69 | 1.11 | 21.94 | 15.12 | 14.47 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| - PINEVILLE | 86 | 62 | 74 | | | 0.63 | | 28.97 | 16.92 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 84 | 56 | 70 | - 1 | | 0.03 | 0.98 | 18.25 | 14.58 | 13.48 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 84 | 55 | 69 | | | 0.19 | | 23.39 | 14.82 | |
| FLAT TOP | 79 | 55 | 67 | | | 0.69 | | 21.94 | 15.15 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 87 | 54 | 72 | - 2 | | 0.02 | 0.89 | 21.45 | 16.58 | 13.24 |
| ROMNEY | 88 | 50 | 70 | | | 0.06 | | 18.08 | 15.97 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 87 | 54 | 71 | | | 0.71 | | 18.54 | 16.37 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: July 28, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 20
FOR WEEK OF: July 21 - July 27

GENERAL

Another favorable week enabled farmers to make progress with 1st and 2nd cutting hay. Small grain harvest continued and early stages of peach harvest is underway.

Temperatures: Temperatures last week were near normal for this time of year. The highest reported temperature was 94 degrees at Romney in the Northeast. The lowest reported temperature was 47 degrees at Marlinton. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 71 degrees.

Precipitation: Last week across the state, precipitation occurred the first three days and then the rest of the week was dry. Maximum amounts fell in the North and Eastern panhandle. The state-wide weekly average precipitation was 0.71 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 5.5 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|---------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current | | | | |
| Week | -- | 2 | 90 | 8 |
| Last | | | | |
| Week | -- | 1 | 90 | 9 |
| Last | | | | |
| Year | 1 | 15 | 80 | 4 |

Farm activities: In general, with 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork, the weather was conducive to farm activities. Hay and small grain harvest continued.

FRUIT

The second and third adult flights of tufted apple bud moth and redbanded leafroller, respectively, are beginning to occur in apple orchards. Based on degree day accumulations, egg hatch of second generation codling moth is estimated at 31% complete in apple, with egg hatch of third generation oriental fruit moth just beginning in peach. Apple conditions were reported fair to good, with most in good condition. Peach conditions were reported fair to good, with most in good condition.

TOBACCO

Tobacco conditions were reported in poor to good, but most fields were reported in poor to fair condition. Topping was 3 percent complete, compared with 15 percent in 2002 and 8 percent for the 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|--------------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 2 | 15 | 65 | 18 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 2 | 15 | 75 | 8 |
| Apples | -- | -- | 20 | 80 | -- |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 25 | 75 | -- |
| Hay | 2 | 8 | 25 | 55 | 10 |
| Wheat | -- | 45 | 45 | 10 | -- |
| Pasture | -- | 2 | 20 | 55 | 23 |
| Oats | -- | 15 | 20 | 55 | 10 |
| Corn | -- | 12 | 25 | 55 | 8 |
| Soybeans | -- | 1 | 12 | 75 | 12 |
| Tobacco | -- | 35 | 35 | 30 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 25 percent in silk stage compared with 65 percent in 2002 and 53 percent for the 5-yr. average. Oat conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 20 percent harvested, compared with 45 percent in 2002 and 28 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as poor to fair. The crop was 85 percent harvested, compared with 99 percent last year and 86 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported as good. The crop was 97 percent emerged. Soybeans were 10 percent blooming, compared with 60 percent in 2002 and 42 percent for the 5-yr. average.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep condition ranged from poor to excellent, with most being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.

HAY

Hay condition ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. First cutting was 90 percent complete, compared with 100 percent last year and 98 percent for the 5-yr. average. Second cutting was 15 percent complete, compared with 45 percent in 2002 and 35 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | OATS | WHEAT | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | HAY | |
|----------|--------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | SILKED | HARVESTED | HARVESTED | TOPPED | EMERGED | BLOOMING | 1 st Cut | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 25 | 20 | 85 | 3 | 97 | 10 | 90 | 15 |
| 2002 | 65 | 45 | 99 | 15 | NA | 60 | 100 | 45 |
| 5 YR AVG | 53 | 28 | 86 | 8 | NA | 42 | 98 | 35 |

NA = Not available

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 28, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | WEEKS TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 86 | 60 | 73 | | 0.69 | | 15.46 | 17.87 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 89 | 60 | 74 | - 1 | 1.62 | 0.98 | 25.57 | 16.98 | 15.01 |
| CRESTON | 87 | 56 | 71 | | 0.73 | | 19.81 | 19.66 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 86 | 57 | 73 | | 1.01 | | 25.93 | 20.58 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 87 | 56 | 72 | - 2 | 0.08 | 0.91 | 20.26 | 18.05 | 15.26 |
| BELINGTON | 87 | 49 | 69 | | 0.15 | | 19.51 | 20.92 | |
| WESTON | 90 | 55 | 72 | | 0.85 | | 26.02 | 23.63 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 90 | 60 | 74 | | 0.59 | | 22.91 | 21.65 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 90 | 57 | 73 | - 2 | 0.82 | 1.07 | 24.14 | 12.48 | 15.33 |
| CHARLESTON | 88 | 54 | 72 | - 4 | 0.37 | 1.15 | 19.69 | 15.55 | 15.30 |
| RIPLEY | 88 | 56 | 73 | | 1.56 | | 20.06 | 18.36 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 79 | 52 | 67 | | 0.23 | | 26.87 | 23.79 | |
| ELKIN | 88 | 52 | 69 | 0 | 0.62 | 0.98 | 23.03 | 22.33 | 16.50 |
| MARLINTON | 80 | 47 | 64 | | 0.28 | | 22.70 | 18.32 | |
| BECKLEY | 80 | 50 | 65 | - 5 | 0.62 | 1.04 | 22.56 | 16.70 | 15.51 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 86 | 59 | 71 | | 1.05 | | 30.02 | 18.01 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 84 | 50 | 68 | - 3 | 0.96 | 0.98 | 19.21 | 15.74 | 14.46 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 85 | 52 | 69 | | 0.39 | | 23.78 | 17.39 | |
| FLAT TOP | 80 | 50 | 65 | | 0.62 | | 22.56 | 16.73 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 90 | 57 | 76 | + 2 | 1.85 | 0.84 | 23.30 | 19.06 | 14.08 |
| ROMNEY | 94 | 51 | 72 | | 0.30 | | 18.38 | 18.24 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 92 | 53 | 72 | | 0.21 | | 18.75 | 20.37 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: August 4, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 22
FOR WEEK OF: August 4 - August 10

GENERAL

Heavy thunderstorms passed across the state last week inhibiting hay and small grain harvesting. Some localized flooding was reported. Problems with weeds and pest control were reported. Concern for time left in the growing season remains.

Temperatures: Temperatures averaged below normal again. The highest reported temperature was 93 degrees at Romney. The lowest reported temperature was 53 degrees, also, at Romney. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 72 degrees.

Precipitation: Heavy rains fell across sections of the Mountain State. As with showers, some areas received over 3 inches while other locales reported a half an inch or less. The greatest amount was 3.71 inches at Ripley. The least amount was 0.33 of an inch at Bluefield. The state average was 1.85 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 3.9 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current Week | -- | 3 | 84 | 13 |
| Last Week | -- | 3 | 84 | 13 |
| Last Year | 5 | 55 | 40 | -- |

Farm activities included working cattle, harvesting small grains and hay, tending pastures, participating in local, county fairs and festivals and preparing for the State Fair.

FRUIT

The second moth flight of tufted apple bud moth is beginning in apple orchards. Based on degree day accumulations, egg hatch of third generation oriental fruit moth on peach and second generation codling moth on apple is 25 and 58 percent complete, respectively. Apple conditions were reported fair to good, with most in good condition. Peach conditions were reported fair to good, with most in good condition. Peaches were percent harvested.

TOBACCO

Tobacco conditions were reported in mostly poor to good condition. Topping was 7 percent complete, compared with 32 percent in 2002 and 14 percent for the 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 2 | 27 | 56 | 15 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 16 | 74 | 9 |
| Apples | -- | -- | 20 | 80 | -- |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 25 | 75 | -- |
| Hay | 1 | 8 | 25 | 54 | 12 |
| Wheat | -- | 43 | 44 | 13 | -- |
| Pasture | -- | 3 | 28 | 50 | 19 |
| Oats | -- | 11 | 37 | 46 | 6 |
| Corn | -- | 13 | 35 | 42 | 10 |
| Soybeans | -- | 7 | 21 | 61 | 11 |
| Tobacco | -- | 36 | 33 | 31 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as fair to mostly good. The crop was 43 percent in silk stage compared with 72 percent in 2002 and 65 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 3 percent doughing compared with 31 percent last year and 17 percent for the 5-yr. average. Oat conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 36 percent harvested, compared with 70 percent in 2002 and 53 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as poor to fair. The crop was 89 percent harvested, compared with 100 percent last year and 93 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported as good. The crop was 33 percent blooming, compared with 74 percent in 2002 and 57 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 6 percent in the podding stage compared with 36 percent in 2002 and 24 percent for the 5-yr. average.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most herds being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.

HAY

Hay conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. First cutting was 91 percent complete, compared with 100 percent last year and 99 percent for the 5-yr. average. Second cutting was 17 percent complete, compared with 59 percent in 2002 and 44 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | OATS | WHEAT | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | HAY | |
|----------|--------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | SILKED | DOUGHING | HARVESTED | HARVESTED | TOPPED | BLOOMING | PODDING | 1 st Cut | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 43 | 3 | 36 | 89 | 7 | 33 | 6 | 91 | 17 |
| 2002 | 72 | 31 | 70 | 100 | 32 | 74 | 36 | 100 | 59 |
| 5 YR AVG | 65 | 17 | 53 | 93 | 14 | 57 | 24 | 99 | 44 |

NA = Not available

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 3, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|-------|---------------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | TOTAL | WEEKS NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 86 | 60 | 73 | | 0.55 | | 16.01 | 18.07 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 88 | 61 | 74 | - 1 | 2.40 | 0.98 | 27.97 | 17.01 | 15.99 |
| CRESTON | 86 | 60 | 71 | | 1.59 | | 21.40 | 19.66 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 86 | 59 | 72 | | 2.40 | | 28.33 | 20.71 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 88 | 61 | 73 | 0 | 3.02 | 0.94 | 23.28 | 18.07 | 16.20 |
| BELINGTON | 85 | 59 | 70 | | 3.41 | | 22.92 | 20.95 | |
| WESTON | 87 | 62 | 72 | | 2.89 | | 28.91 | 23.98 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 88 | 62 | 75 | | 1.20 | | 24.11 | 22.00 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 88 | 63 | 75 | 0 | 2.91 | 1.02 | 27.05 | 12.68 | 16.35 |
| CHARLESTON | 87 | 62 | 73 | - 2 | 1.77 | 1.08 | 21.46 | 15.55 | 16.38 |
| RIPLEY | 86 | 61 | 73 | | 3.71 | | 23.77 | 18.36 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 82 | 56 | 67 | | 2.35 | | 29.22 | 24.08 | |
| ELKIN | 88 | 58 | 70 | + 1 | 0.93 | 0.99 | 23.96 | 22.33 | 17.49 |
| MARLINTON | 80 | 59 | 66 | | 0.50 | | 23.20 | 18.32 | |
| BECKLEY | 80 | 58 | 68 | - 2 | 1.05 | 0.94 | 23.61 | 17.05 | 16.45 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| - PINEVILLE | 86 | 66 | 73 | | 1.92 | | 31.94 | 18.53 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 83 | 59 | 70 | - 1 | 0.33 | 0.89 | 19.54 | 15.91 | 15.35 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 87 | 63 | 66 | | 0.93 | | 24.71 | 17.43 | |
| FLAT TOP | 80 | 58 | 68 | | 1.05 | | 23.61 | 17.08 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 85 | 60 | 73 | - 1 | 0.96 | 0.84 | 24.26 | 19.06 | 14.92 |
| ROMNEY | 93 | 53 | 72 | | 2.05 | | 20.43 | 18.24 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 88 | 61 | 73 | | 2.69 | | 21.44 | 20.37 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.



West Virginia
Agricultural
Statistics Service

CROP-WEATHER BULLETIN

In Cooperation with:
US Department of Commerce-NOAA
USDA Farm Service Agency
West Virginia Extension Service
WV Dept. of Agriculture
USDA Farm Service Agency
Phone: (304) 558-2217
Fax: (304) 558-0297
Homepage: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/wv>

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: August 11, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 22
FOR WEEK OF: August 4 - August 10

GENERAL

Heavy thunderstorms continue to inhibit hay and small grain harvesting. Some localized flooding was reported. Problems with weeds and pest control were reported. Wet, muddy conditions are affecting livestock. Concern for time left in the growing season remains.

Temperatures: Daily temperatures this past week were mild, in the 70s to mostly low 80s. A bit cool for summer. Overnight lows were mostly in the 60s. The highest reported temperature was 87 degrees at Romney and Williamson. The lowest reported temperature was 45 degrees at Elkins. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 71 degrees.

Precipitation: Rainfall occurred every day although scattered throughout the state. Some areas has as high as 2 inches while others received much less. However, there was no real organization to the thunderstorms and showers that popped up. Any flooding had to be localized and more of a nuisance then damaging. The state average was 1.69 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 2.7 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 62 | 38 |
| Last Week | -- | 3 | 84 | 13 |
| Last Year | 5 | 55 | 40 | -- |

Farm activities included working cattle, harvesting small grains and hay, tending pastures, participating in local, county fairs and festivals and preparing for the State fair.

FRUIT

The third adult flight of redbanded leafroller is increasing in apple orchards. Nymphs of second generation white apple leafhopper are beginning to appear on the underside of apple leaves. Based on degree day accumulations since biofix, egg hatch of second generation codling moth on apple and third generation oriental fruit moth on peach is 82 and 51 percent complete, respectively. Apple conditions were reported poor to good, with most in good condition. Peach conditions were reported poor to good, with most in good condition. Peaches were 20 percent harvested.

TOBACCO

Tobacco conditions were reported in very poor to good condition, with most in fair condition. Topping was 16 percent complete, compared with 50 percent in 2002 and 24 percent for the 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 1 | 20 | 65 | 14 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | -- | 12 | 73 | 15 |
| Apples | -- | 6 | 38 | 56 | -- |
| Peaches | -- | 8 | 39 | 53 | -- |
| Hay | 1 | 5 | 25 | 62 | 7 |
| Wheat | -- | 23 | 48 | 29 | -- |
| Pasture | -- | 2 | 25 | 51 | 22 |
| Oats | -- | 1 | 34 | 54 | 11 |
| Corn | -- | 12 | 34 | 51 | 3 |
| Soybeans | -- | 3 | 32 | 65 | -- |
| Tobacco | 1 | 23 | 50 | 26 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 57 percent in silk stage compared with 76 percent in 2002 and 75 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 21 percent doughing compared with 35 percent last year and 26 percent for the 5-yr. average. Oat conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 42 percent harvested, compared with 85 percent in 2002 and 75 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter wheat conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were estimated as fair. The crop was 92 percent harvested, compared with 100 percent last year and 98 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were reported as good. The crop was 59 percent blooming, compared with 80 percent in 2002 and 67 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 35 percent in the podding stage compared with 40 percent in 2002 and 31 percent for the 5-yr. average.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from fair to excellent, with most herds being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.

HAY

Hay conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. First cutting was 93 percent complete, compared with 100 percent last year and 100 percent for the 5-yr. average. Second cutting was 17 percent complete, compared with 70 percent in 2002 and 53 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | OATS | WHEAT | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | HAY | |
|----------|--------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | SILKED | DOUGHING | HARVESTED | HARVESTED | TOPPED | BLOOMING | PODDING | 1 st Cut | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 57 | 21 | 42 | 92 | 16 | 59 | 35 | 93 | 17 |
| 2002 | 76 | 35 | 85 | 100 | 50 | 80 | 40 | 100 | 70 |
| 5 YR AVG | 75 | 26 | 75 | 98 | 24 | 67 | 31 | 100 | 53 |

NA = Not available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 10, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|---------|-----------|---------------|------|-----------------|-------|-------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY | | WEEKS | | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | AVERAGE | DEPARTURE | TOTAL | NORM | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 85 | 64 | 74 | | 0.10 | | 16.11 | 18.07 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 84 | 63 | 74 | 0 | 0.70 | 0.98 | 28.67 | 17.01 | 16.97 |
| CRESTON | 82 | 61 | 71 | | 2.12 | | 23.52 | 19.66 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 82 | 62 | 71 | | 1.57 | | 29.90 | 21.48 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 82 | 62 | 72 | - 1 | 0.27 | 0.98 | 23.55 | 18.42 | 17.18 |
| BELINGTON | 81 | 61 | 70 | | 1.10 | | 24.02 | 21.11 | |
| WESTON | 85 | 62 | 73 | | 1.15 | | 30.06 | 24.05 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 87 | 64 | 75 | | 1.89 | | 26.00 | 22.00 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 85 | 63 | 74 | 0 | 1.56 | 0.94 | 28.61 | 12.88 | 17.29 |
| CHARLESTON | 85 | 61 | 72 | - 3 | 3.05 | 0.98 | 24.51 | 15.91 | 17.36 |
| RIPLEY | 83 | 62 | 72 | | 1.27 | | 25.04 | 18.62 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 76 | 56 | 67 | | 1.60 | | 30.82 | 24.87 | |
| ELKINS | 82 | 45 | 68 | - 1 | 3.04 | 0.98 | 27.00 | 22.40 | 18.47 |
| MARLINTON | 76 | 55 | 64 | | 2.00 | | 25.20 | 18.37 | |
| BECKLEY | 77 | 55 | 67 | - 3 | 2.54 | 0.82 | 26.15 | 17.77 | 17.27 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| - PINEVILLE | 83 | 64 | 73 | | 2.06 | | 34.00 | 18.98 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 82 | 57 | 68 | - 2 | 2.53 | 0.82 | 22.07 | 16.07 | 16.17 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 82 | 56 | 70 | | 1.12 | | 25.83 | 17.49 | |
| FLAT TOP | 77 | 55 | 66 | | 2.63 | | 26.24 | 17.80 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 85 | 62 | 74 | + 1 | 0.46 | 0.77 | 24.72 | 19.47 | 15.69 |
| ROMNEY | 87 | 58 | 71 | | 1.37 | | 21.80 | 18.33 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 86 | 61 | 72 | | 2.99 | | 24.43 | 20.46 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: August 18, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 23
FOR WEEK OF: August 11 - August 17

GENERAL

Wet conditions continue to delay wheat harvest and tobacco topping. Crop, livestock, and pasture conditions are mostly good.

With a warm and humid air mass stalled over our region for most of the week, temperatures were above seasonal normals for nearly every location, while rainfall exceeded normal values, particularly in the central and southern sections of the state.

Temperatures: Temperatures reached into the 90s for many sites, but the cloud cover and rainfall kept readings just a little cooler for the central and southern sections of the state. The highest reported temperature was 93 degrees at Romney and Wheeling. The lowest reported temperature was 50 degrees at Elkins. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 74 degrees.

Precipitation: Isolated heavy thunderstorms dumped considerable rainfall amounts to communities in the southern and central counties where five sites received over two inches of rain. The state average was 1.16 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 3.5 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|---------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current | | | | |
| Week | -- | -- | 76 | 24 |
| Last | | | | |
| Week | -- | -- | 62 | 38 |
| Last | | | | |
| Year | 15 | 55 | 30 | -- |

Farm activities included working cattle, harvesting small grains and hay, tending pastures, participating in local, county fairs and festivals, as well as the State fair.

FRUIT

Apple conditions were reported fair to excellent, with most in good condition. Peach conditions were reported fair to excellent, with most in good condition. Peaches were 32 percent harvested.

TOBACCO

Tobacco conditions were reported in very poor to good condition, with most in poor to fair condition. Topping was 18 percent complete, compared with 60 percent in 2002 and 44 percent for the 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|--------------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | -- | 13 | 72 | 15 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | -- | 9 | 81 | 10 |
| Apples | -- | -- | 10 | 80 | 10 |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 27 | 60 | 13 |
| Hay | -- | 2 | 22 | 68 | 8 |
| Pasture | -- | 1 | 18 | 59 | 22 |
| Corn | -- | 6 | 19 | 64 | 11 |
| Soybeans | -- | 1 | 25 | 63 | 11 |
| Tobacco | 1 | 32 | 36 | 31 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 72 percent in silk stage compared with 95 percent in 2002 and 84 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 28 percent doughing compared with 41 percent last year and 35 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 1 percent in the dent stage, compared to 16 percent in 2002. Oats were 45 percent harvested, compared with 96 percent in 2002 and 82 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported as good. The crop was 60 percent blooming, compared with 95 percent in 2002 and 77 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 39 percent in the podding stage compared with 68 percent in 2002 and 41 percent for the 5-yr. average.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle conditions ranged from fair to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from fair to excellent, with most herds being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.

HAY

Hay conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. Second cutting was 23 percent complete, compared with 81 percent in 2002 and 60 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | | OATS | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | HAY |
|----------|--------|----------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|---------------------|
| | SILKED | DOUGHING | DENTED | HARVESTED | TOPPED | BLOOMING | PODDING | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 72 | 28 | 1 | 45 | 18 | 60 | 39 | 23 |
| 2002 | 95 | 41 | 16 | 96 | 60 | 95 | 68 | 81 |
| 5 YR AVG | 84 | 35 | NA | 82 | 44 | 77 | 41 | 60 |

NA-Not Available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 17, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | WEEKS TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 93 | 62 | 78 | | 0.64 | | 16.75 | 18.56 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 92 | 62 | 78 | + 4 | 0.05 | 0.98 | 28.72 | 17.25 | 17.95 |
| CRESTON | 89 | 62 | 75 | | 0.71 | | 24.23 | 19.97 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 87 | 61 | 75 | | 0.10 | | 30.00 | 22.65 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 89 | 61 | 76 | + 4 | 0.21 | 0.98 | 23.76 | 18.57 | 18.16 |
| BELINGTON | 88 | 62 | 74 | | 0.84 | | 24.86 | 21.31 | |
| WESTON | 90 | 63 | 77 | | 1.95 | | 32.01 | 24.90 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 91 | 65 | 78 | | 0.41 | | 26.41 | 22.68 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 92 | 63 | 77 | + 3 | 0.31 | 0.88 | 28.92 | 13.37 | 18.17 |
| CHARLESTON | 89 | 59 | 75 | + 1 | 0.91 | 0.90 | 25.42 | 17.07 | 18.26 |
| RIPLEY | 90 | 61 | 76 | | 0.37 | | 25.41 | 19.48 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 82 | 58 | 70 | | 2.42 | | 33.24 | 25.02 | |
| ELKINS | 86 | 50 | 71 | + 3 | 0.98 | 0.98 | 27.98 | 23.07 | 19.45 |
| MARLINTON | 82 | 55 | 68 | | 2.51 | | 27.71 | 18.75 | |
| BECKLEY | 82 | 55 | 69 | 0 | 2.21 | 0.75 | 28.36 | 18.65 | 18.02 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 86 | 64 | 75 | | 2.42 | | 36.42 | 20.46 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 84 | 60 | 72 | + 3 | 1.06 | 0.76 | 23.13 | 16.53 | 16.93 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 87 | 60 | 73 | | 1.78 | | 27.61 | 18.21 | |
| FLAT TOP | 82 | 55 | 69 | | 2.21 | | 28.45 | 18.68 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 92 | 65 | 77 | + 5 | 1.39 | 0.77 | 26.11 | 19.53 | 16.46 |
| ROMNEY | 93 | 53 | 74 | | 1.14 | | 22.94 | 19.53 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 87 | 63 | 75 | | 0.96 | | 25.39 | 20.53 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: August 25, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 24
FOR WEEK OF: August 18 - August 24

GENERAL

Favorable weather conditions allowed for most farming activities. Farmers made excellent progress making hay.

Temperatures: Near normal temperatures were reported over the area with slightly above normal temperatures for the middle of the week. The highest reported temperature was 95 degrees at Huntington. The lowest reported temperature was 47 degrees at Marlinton. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 72 degrees.

Precipitation: Most of the week was dry across the area with the exception of Friday when a frontal system caused scattered thunderstorms with heavy rainfall over parts of the state. The state average was 0.10 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 5.6 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|---------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current | | | | |
| Week | -- | 3 | 88 | 9 |
| Last | | | | |
| Week | -- | -- | 76 | 24 |
| Last | | | | |
| Year | 23 | 47 | 30 | -- |

Farm activities included harvesting oats, topping tobacco, haying, clipping pastures and working cattle.

FRUIT

Slugs have been observed feeding on peach and apple fruits on low branches on and near the ground. Based on degree day accumulations since biofix, egg hatch of second generation tufted apple bud moth and codling moth is estimated at 53 and 100 percent complete, respectively. Apple conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Peach conditions were reported fair to excellent, with most in good condition. Peaches were 50 percent harvested.

TOBACCO

Tobacco conditions were reported in very poor to good condition, with most in fair condition. Topping was 34 percent complete, compared with 90 percent in 2002 and 57 percent for the 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 1 | 12 | 71 | 16 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 9 | 78 | 12 |
| Apples | -- | 10 | 20 | 65 | 5 |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 15 | 80 | 5 |
| Hay | 1 | 4 | 24 | 63 | 8 |
| Pasture | -- | 3 | 19 | 53 | 25 |
| Corn | -- | 6 | 25 | 55 | 14 |
| Soybeans | -- | 2 | 24 | 62 | 12 |
| Tobacco | 1 | 32 | 43 | 24 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 76 percent in silk stage compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 93 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 30 percent doughing compared with 63 percent last year and 50 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 2 percent in the dent stage, compared with 20 percent in 2002 and 13 percent for the 5-yr. average. Oats were 58 percent harvested, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 91 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported as good. Soybeans were 88 percent blooming, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 85 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 62 percent in the podding stage compared with 91 percent in 2002 and 61 percent for the 5-yr. average.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most herds being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.

HAY

Hay conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. Second cutting was 40 percent complete, compared with 90 percent in 2002 and 69 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | | OATS | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | HAY |
|----------|--------|----------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|---------------------|
| | SILKED | DOUGHING | DENTED | HARVESTED | TOPPED | BLOOMING | PODDING | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 76 | 30 | 2 | 58 | 34 | 88 | 62 | 40 |
| 2002 | 100 | 63 | 20 | 100 | 90 | 100 | 91 | 90 |
| 5 YR AVG | 93 | 50 | 13 | 91 | 57 | 85 | 61 | 69 |

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 24, 2003

| TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEKS ENDING APRIL 1st, 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-----|---------|------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------|-------|-------------|
| STATION | TEMPERATURE | | | WEEKLY DEPARTURE | PRECIPITATION | | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | HIGH | LOW | AVERAGE | | TOTAL | WEEKS NORM | 2003 | 2002 | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 91 | 56 | 75 | | 0.15 | | 16.90 | 18.75 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 92 | 58 | 74 | + 1 | 0.01 | 0.91 | 28.73 | 17.67 | 18.86 |
| CRESTON | 89 | 55 | 72 | | 0.02 | | 24.25 | 20.05 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 87 | 52 | 72 | | 0.00 | | 30.00 | 23.32 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 88 | 53 | 72 | + 1 | 0.00 | 0.98 | 23.76 | 18.72 | 19.14 |
| BELINGTON | 87 | 53 | 71 | | 0.00 | | 24.86 | 21.75 | |
| WESTON | 90 | 55 | 74 | | 0.00 | | 32.01 | 26.27 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 91 | 62 | 77 | | 0.53 | | 26.94 | 23.04 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 95 | 57 | 75 | + 2 | 0.22 | 0.82 | 29.14 | 13.77 | 18.99 |
| CHARLESTON | 89 | 57 | 73 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.84 | 25.42 | 17.16 | 19.10 |
| RIPLEY | 90 | 55 | 73 | | 0.75 | | 26.16 | 20.17 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 81 | 50 | 68 | | 0.03 | | 33.27 | 26.05 | |
| ELKINS | 86 | 48 | 69 | + 2 | 0.00 | 0.98 | 27.98 | 23.76 | 20.43 |
| MARLINTON | 81 | 47 | 66 | | 0.00 | | 27.71 | 18.91 | |
| BECKLEY | 79 | 50 | 66 | - 2 | 0.00 | 0.70 | 28.36 | 18.77 | 18.72 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| - PINEVILLE | 86 | 60 | 73 | | 0.00 | | 36.42 | 21.11 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 83 | 53 | 70 | + 1 | 0.00 | 0.70 | 23.13 | 17.07 | 17.63 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 86 | 54 | 71 | | 0.03 | | 27.64 | 18.39 | |
| FLAT TOP | 79 | 50 | 66 | | 0.00 | | 28.45 | 18.80 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 92 | 53 | 73 | + 2 | 0.33 | 0.71 | 26.44 | 20.29 | 17.17 |
| ROMNEY | 92 | 52 | 72 | | 0.10 | | 23.04 | 19.99 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 90 | 53 | 72 | | 0.00 | | 25.39 | 20.75 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: September 2, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 25
FOR WEEK OF: August 25 - August 31

GENERAL

Even though hampered by scattered heavy thunderstorms, activities for the week were oat and hay harvesting, topping tobacco and working livestock.

Temperatures: Max temperatures this past week were mostly in the 80's and low 90's but cooled to the 70's and 80's by the weekend. Minimum temperatures started out at the beginning of the week in the 50's and 60's, but warmed into the 60's and 70's the rest of the week. Of course, some mountain valleys saw the lowest temperatures with some locations dipping into the 40's. The highest reported temperature was 94 degrees at Huntington. The lowest reported temperature was 49 degrees at Romney. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 74 degrees.

Precipitation: Rainfall this past week was generally light. However, with summer thunderstorms lingering around, isolated locations received as much as 2 inches or more, but no flood problems occurred. The state average was 1.28 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 4.0 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 64 | 36 |
| Last Week | -- | 3 | 88 | 9 |
| Last Year | 34 | 45 | 21 | -- |

Farm activities included harvesting oats, topping tobacco, haying, clipping pastures, and working cattle.

FRUIT

Based on degree day accumulations since biofix, egg hatch of second generation tufted apple bud moth and third generation codling moth is estimated at 84 and 12 percent complete, respectively. Apple conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Peach conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Peaches were 65 percent harvested.

TOBACCO

Tobacco conditions were reported in very poor to good condition, with most in poor to mostly fair condition. Topping was 59 percent complete, compared with 95 percent in 2002 and 74 percent for the 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 2 | 24 | 64 | 10 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 2 | 17 | 71 | 10 |
| Apples | -- | 6 | 30 | 56 | 8 |
| Peaches | -- | 8 | 39 | 45 | 8 |
| Hay | -- | 5 | 28 | 62 | 5 |
| Pasture | -- | 3 | 26 | 48 | 23 |
| Corn | -- | 13 | 30 | 42 | 15 |
| Soybeans | -- | 1 | 17 | 59 | 23 |
| Tobacco | 1 | 33 | 38 | 28 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 86 percent in silk stage compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 96 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 45 percent doughing compared with 84 percent last year and 67 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 10 percent in the dent stage, compared with 46 percent in 2002 and 31 percent for the 5-yr. average. Oats were 88 percent harvested, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 97 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported as good. Soybeans were 89 percent blooming, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 95 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 66 percent in the podding stage compared with 93 percent in 2002 and 83 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 3 percent in the dropping leaves stage compared with 40 percent at this time last year and 16 percent for a 5-yr. average.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most herds being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.

HAY

Hay conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. Second cutting was 57 percent complete, compared with 91 percent in 2002 and 78 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | | OATS | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | | HAY |
|----------|--------|----------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|---------------|---------------------|
| | SILKED | DOUGHING | DENTED | HARVESTED | TOPPED | BLOOMING | PODDING | DROPPING LVS. | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 86 | 45 | 10 | 88 | 59 | 89 | 66 | 3 | 57 |
| 2002 | 100 | 84 | 46 | 100 | 95 | 100 | 93 | 40 | 91 |
| 5 YR AVG | 96 | 67 | 31 | 97 | 74 | 95 | 83 | 16 | 78 |

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 31, 2003

| TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 1st, 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|-------|---------------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| STATION | TEMPERATURE | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | |
| | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | TOTAL | WEEKS NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 90 | 60 | 74 | | 1.88 | | 18.78 | 18.75 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 92 | 62 | 77 | + 5 | 0.34 | 0.87 | 29.07 | 17.77 | 19.73 |
| CRESTON | 90 | 55 | 75 | | 0.37 | | 24.62 | 20.36 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 85 | 60 | 74 | | 4.35 | | 34.35 | 23.35 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 89 | 57 | 74 | + 5 | 1.95 | 0.98 | 25.71 | 18.72 | 20.12 |
| BELINGTON | 86 | 54 | 72 | | 1.40 | | 26.26 | 22.02 | |
| WESTON | 90 | 52 | 74 | | 2.50 | | 34.51 | 26.70 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 93 | 62 | 79 | | 0.44 | | 27.38 | 23.11 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 94 | 61 | 77 | + 5 | 1.16 | 0.77 | 30.30 | 14.52 | 19.76 |
| CHARLESTON | 91 | 59 | 76 | + 4 | 0.22 | 0.84 | 25.64 | 17.38 | 19.94 |
| RIPLEY | 91 | 65 | 76 | | 0.20 | | 26.36 | 20.45 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 82 | 57 | 70 | | 4.12 | | 37.39 | 26.10 | |
| ELKINS | 86 | 56 | 72 | + 5 | 1.24 | 0.98 | 29.22 | 23.92 | 21.41 |
| MARLINTON | 83 | 53 | 68 | | 1.39 | | 29.10 | 18.97 | |
| BECKLEY | 83 | 55 | 71 | + 4 | 0.40 | 0.72 | 28.76 | 18.85 | 19.44 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| - PINEVILLE | 92 | 62 | 77 | | 0.90 | | 37.32 | 21.11 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 86 | 58 | 73 | + 5 | 1.36 | 0.71 | 24.49 | 17.14 | 18.34 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 90 | 54 | 73 | | 1.01 | | 28.65 | 18.82 | |
| FLAT TOP | 83 | 55 | 71 | | 0.40 | | 28.85 | 18.88 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 89 | 60 | 75 | + 5 | 0.66 | 0.70 | 27.10 | 21.69 | 17.87 |
| ROMNEY | 92 | 49 | 71 | | 0.88 | | 23.92 | 20.24 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 90 | 59 | 73 | | 0.97 | | 26.36 | 20.98 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: September 8, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 26
FOR WEEK OF: September 1 - September 7

GENERAL

Heavy rains and isolated flooding throughout the week, slowed harvesting. Better weather conditions allowed for hay, oats, and fruit harvesting, winter wheat planting and topping tobacco at the end of the week. Some wildlife pressure was reported on field corn.

Temperatures: With all the clouds and rain, temperatures were on the cool side. Chilly readings were reported on Saturday and Sunday mornings with lows in the 40s in the northeastern mountains. The highest reported temperature was 90 degrees at Weston and Williamson. The lowest reported temperature was 44 degrees at Marlinton. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 67 degrees.

Precipitation: Heavy rains fell across the state during the first part of the week. Cooler and drier air arrived at the end of the week. Rainfall amounts were well above normal. Some locations reported over 3 inches and even 4 inches. The greatest amount was 4.73 inches in Ripley. The state average was 2.25 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 3.0 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 53 | 47 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 64 | 36 |
| Last Year | 48 | 43 | 9 | -- |

Farm activities included harvesting hay, oats, and fruit, planting winter wheat and topping tobacco.

FRUIT

Based on degree day accumulations since biofix, egg hatch of second generation tufted apple bud moth and third generation codling moth is estimated at 100 and 22 percent complete, respectively. Apple conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Apples were 9 percent harvested. Peach conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Peaches were 81 percent harvested.

TOBACCO

Tobacco conditions were reported in very poor to good condition, with most in poor to mostly fair condition. Topping was 77 percent complete, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 89 percent for the 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 1 | 19 | 72 | 8 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 13 | 80 | 6 |
| Apples | -- | 7 | 29 | 57 | 7 |
| Peaches | -- | 7 | 35 | 51 | 7 |
| Hay | -- | 3 | 24 | 65 | 8 |
| Pasture | -- | 1 | 18 | 58 | 23 |
| Corn | -- | 7 | 24 | 58 | 11 |
| Soybeans | -- | 1 | 21 | 66 | 12 |
| Tobacco | 1 | 34 | 37 | 28 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 91 percent in silk stage compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 98 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 67 percent doughing compared with 85 percent last year and 79 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 29 percent in the dent stage, compared with 47 percent in 2002 and 48 percent for the 5-yr. average. Oats were 90 percent harvested, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 100 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported as good. Soybeans were 96 percent blooming, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 99 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 77 percent in the podding stage compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 84 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 7 percent in the dropping leaves stage compared with 41 percent at this time last year and 27 percent for a 5-yr. average. Winter Wheat was 1 percent planted compared to 7 percent in 2002.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most herds being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.

HAY

Hay conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. Second cutting was 60 percent complete, compared with 93 percent in 2002 and 83 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | | OATS | WHEAT | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | | HAY |
|----------|--------|----------|--------|-----------|---------|---------|----------|---------|---------------|---------------------|
| | SILKED | DOUGHING | DENTED | HARVESTED | PLANTED | TOPPED | BLOOMING | PODDING | DROPPING LVS. | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 91 | 67 | 29 | 90 | 1 | 77 | 96 | 77 | 7 | 60 |
| 2002 | 100 | 85 | 47 | 100 | 7 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 41 | 93 |
| 5 YR AVG | 98 | 79 | 48 | 100 | NA | 89 | 99 | 84 | 27 | 83 |

NA- Not Available

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 7, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|---------|-----------|---------------|------|-----------------|-------|-------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY | | WEEKS | | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | AVERAGE | DEPARTURE | TOTAL | NORM | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 86 | 53 | 69 | | 0.05 | | 18.83 | 19.28 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 86 | 53 | 69 | - 1 | 2.25 | 0.81 | 31.32 | 17.78 | 20.54 |
| CRESTON | 87 | 50 | 68 | | 2.98 | | 27.60 | 20.36 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 80 | 52 | 67 | | 1.90 | | 36.25 | 23.43 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 85 | 53 | 67 | - 1 | 1.71 | 0.88 | 27.42 | 18.73 | 21.00 |
| BELINGTON | 81 | 50 | 67 | | 1.95 | | 28.21 | 22.02 | |
| WESTON | 90 | 53 | 69 | | 2.10 | | 36.61 | 26.70 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 90 | 55 | 72 | | 0.91 | | 28.29 | 23.11 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 87 | 55 | 70 | - 1 | 1.38 | 0.73 | 31.68 | 14.52 | 20.49 |
| CHARLESTON | 85 | 52 | 69 | - 2 | 0.61 | 0.80 | 26.25 | 17.38 | 20.74 |
| RIPLEY | 87 | 51 | 68 | | 4.73 | | 31.09 | 20.45 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 75 | 48 | 63 | | 3.39 | | 40.78 | 26.11 | |
| ELKINS | 83 | 48 | 65 | 0 | 3.81 | 0.94 | 33.03 | 23.92 | 22.35 |
| MARLINTON | 77 | 44 | 63 | | 2.54 | | 31.64 | 18.97 | |
| BECKLEY | 79 | 47 | 64 | - 2 | 3.69 | 0.77 | 32.45 | 18.85 | 20.21 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 85 | 55 | 70 | | 2.08 | | 39.40 | 21.11 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 82 | 51 | 66 | - 1 | 1.24 | 0.74 | 25.73 | 17.14 | 19.08 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 83 | 51 | 67 | | 1.92 | | 30.57 | 18.82 | |
| FLAT TOP | 79 | 47 | 64 | | 3.69 | | 32.54 | 18.88 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 82 | 50 | 68 | - 1 | 1.69 | 0.70 | 28.79 | 21.69 | 18.57 |
| ROMNEY | 86 | 45 | 66 | | 2.34 | | 26.26 | 20.24 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 86 | 51 | 68 | | 2.64 | | 29.00 | 20.98 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: September 15, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 27
FOR WEEK OF: September 8 - September 14

GENERAL

As conditions permitted, farmers were 2nd cutting and bailing hay. Fruit and grain harvest continued.

Temperatures: Some cool nights fell upon the State. Lows in the 40s and low 50s were common. The highest reported temperature was 89 degrees at Weston. The lowest reported temperature was 42 degrees at Marlinton. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 66 degrees.

Precipitation: Rainfall was less this past week. Amounts averaged well below normal. A few locations reported no rain. The greatest amount fell in the Eastern panhandle. The state average was 0.21 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 6.0 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|-----------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | PERCENT | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 85 | 15 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 53 | 47 |
| Last Year | 50 | 44 | 6 | -- |

Farm activities included planting winter wheat, harvesting hay and fruit, and topping and harvesting tobacco.

FRUIT

Apple conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Apples were 20 percent harvested. Peach conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Peaches were 90 percent harvested.

TOBACCO

Tobacco conditions were reported in poor to good condition, with most in fair to good condition. Topping was 90 percent complete, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 95 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 30 percent harvested, compared with 68 percent in 2002 and 48 percent for the 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|--------------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| | PERCENT | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 1 | 20 | 70 | 9 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 15 | 79 | 5 |
| Apples | -- | 5 | 30 | 55 | 10 |
| Peaches | -- | 10 | 35 | 45 | 10 |
| Hay | -- | 5 | 25 | 65 | 5 |
| Pasture | -- | 2 | 20 | 55 | 23 |
| Corn | -- | 10 | 25 | 55 | 10 |
| Soybeans | -- | 2 | 23 | 75 | -- |
| Tobacco | -- | 25 | 40 | 35 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 75 percent doughing compared with 91 percent last year and 88 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 40 percent in the dent stage, compared with 75 percent in 2002 and 60 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 10 percent mature, compared with 44 percent last year and 29 percent for the 5-yr. average.

Soybean conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were reported as good. Fields were 95 percent in the podding stage compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 94 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 20 percent in the dropping leaves stage compared with 70 percent at this time last year and 46 percent for a 5-yr. average. Winter Wheat was 5 percent planted compared to 30 percent in 2002.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most herds being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.

HAY

Hay conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. Second cutting was 70 percent complete, compared with 96 percent in 2002 and 88 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | | WHEAT | TOBACCO | | SOYBEANS | | HAY |
|----------|----------|--------|--------|---------|---------|-----------|----------|---------------|---------------------|
| | DOUGHING | DENTED | MATURE | PLANTED | TOPPED | HARVESTED | PODDING | DROPPING LVS. | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 75 | 40 | 10 | 5 | 90 | 30 | 95 | 20 | 70 |
| 2002 | 91 | 75 | 44 | 30 | 100 | 68 | 100 | 70 | 96 |
| 5 YR AVG | 88 | 60 | 29 | NA | 95 | 48 | 94 | 46 | 88 |

NA-Not Available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 14 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|---------|-----------|---------------|------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY | | WEEKS | | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | AVERAGE | DEPARTURE | TOTAL | NORM | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 85 | 56 | 70 | | 0.13 | | 18.96 | 19.43 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 87 | 54 | 70 | + 2 | 0.31 | 0.77 | 31.63 | 18.33 | 21.31 |
| CRESTON | 86 | 51 | 68 | | 0.00 | | 27.60 | 20.68 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 83 | 50 | 67 | | 0.11 | | 36.36 | 23.55 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 84 | 49 | 67 | 0 | 0.01 | 0.78 | 27.43 | 19.32 | 21.78 |
| BELINGTON | 84 | 43 | 64 | | 0.27 | | 28.48 | 22.45 | |
| WESTON | 89 | 49 | 68 | | 0.00 | | 36.61 | 27.23 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 87 | 53 | 70 | | 0.23 | | 28.52 | 23.42 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 85 | 53 | 70 | + 1 | 0.14 | 0.70 | 31.82 | 14.96 | 21.19 |
| CHARLESTON | 86 | 49 | 67 | - 2 | 0.30 | 0.77 | 26.55 | 17.97 | 21.51 |
| RIPLEY | 85 | 50 | 67 | | 0.29 | | 31.38 | 21.10 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 77 | 47 | 61 | | 0.14 | | 40.92 | 26.45 | |
| ELKINS | 81 | 43 | 63 | - 1 | 0.21 | 0.91 | 33.24 | 24.45 | 23.26 |
| MARLINTON | 75 | 42 | 59 | | 0.08 | | 31.72 | 19.71 | |
| BECKLEY | 78 | 48 | 61 | - 3 | 0.02 | 0.78 | 32.47 | 19.19 | 20.99 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| - PINEVILLE | 82 | 50 | 67 | | 0.02 | | 39.42 | 21.53 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 84 | 51 | 65 | 0 | 0.05 | 0.77 | 25.78 | 17.66 | 19.85 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 81 | 46 | 62 | | 0.32 | | 30.89 | 19.60 | |
| FLAT TOP | 78 | 48 | 61 | | 0.02 | | 32.56 | 19.22 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 79 | 47 | 65 | - 2 | 0.95 | 0.64 | 29.74 | 21.84 | 19.21 |
| ROMNEY | 81 | 43 | 61 | | 0.61 | | 26.87 | 20.50 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 86 | 47 | 65 | | 0.34 | | 29.34 | 21.32 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: September 22, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 28
FOR WEEK OF: September 15 - September 21

GENERAL

Main activities were marketing livestock, crop harvesting and cleaning up from rain and flooding from hurricane Isabel. There has been limited crop damage reported as a result of the hurricane. The main problems were some wind damage to buildings and flooding.

Temperatures: Temperatures were around normal or a little below normal over the area except slightly above normal in the northeastern area. The highest reported temperature was 86 degrees at Moorefield. The lowest reported temperature was 36 degrees at Terra Alta. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 63 degrees.

Precipitation: Due to heavy rainfall as a result of hurricane Isabel on late Thursday and through mid-day Friday. The state average was 2.23 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 4.2 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | PERCENT | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 63 | 37 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 85 | 15 |
| Last Year | 40 | 45 | 15 | -- |

Farm activities included marketing livestock, crop harvesting and cleaning up from rain and flooding from hurricane Isabel.

FRUIT

Apple conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Apples were 39 percent harvested. Peach conditions were reported fair to excellent, with most in good condition. Peaches were 100 percent harvested.

TOBACCO

Tobacco conditions were reported in poor to good condition, with most in good condition. Topping was 91 percent complete, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 100 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 45 percent harvested, compared with 80 percent in 2002 and 67 percent for the 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----|
| | PERCENT | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 1 | 20 | 68 | 11 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 15 | 77 | 7 |
| Apples | -- | 18 | 9 | 71 | 2 |
| Peaches | -- | -- | 4 | 94 | 2 |
| Hay | -- | 8 | 25 | 63 | 4 |
| Pasture | -- | 1 | 19 | 59 | 21 |
| Corn | 3 | 6 | 19 | 53 | 19 |
| Soybeans | -- | 1 | 19 | 80 | -- |
| Tobacco | -- | 25 | 28 | 47 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. The crop was 79 percent doughing compared with 93 percent last year and 93 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 52 percent in the dent stage, compared with 80 percent in 2002 and 72 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 15 percent mature, compared with 55 percent last year and 41 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to good, but most fields were reported as good. The crop was 35 percent in the dropping leaves stage compared with 85 percent at this time last year and 59 percent for a 5-yr. average. Winter Wheat was 7 percent planted, compared with 40 percent in 2002 and 16 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 1 percent emerged compared to 30 percent this time last year.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most herds being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.

HAY

Hay conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. Second cutting was 82 percent complete, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 90 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | | WHEAT | | TOBACCO | | SOYBEANS | HAY |
|----------|----------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|---------------|---------------------|
| | DOUGHING | DENTED | MATURE | PLANTED | EMERGED | TOPPED | HARVESTED | DROPPING LVS. | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 79 | 52 | 15 | 7 | 1 | 91 | 45 | 35 | 82 |
| 2002 | 93 | 80 | 55 | 40 | 30 | 100 | 80 | 85 | 100 |
| 5 YR AVG | 93 | 72 | 41 | 16 | NA | 100 | 67 | 59 | 90 |

NA-Not Available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 21, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 80 | 51 | 65 | | 1.57 | | 20.53 | 19.51 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 82 | 52 | 65 | - 1 | 2.38 | 0.71 | 34.01 | 18.62 | 22.02 |
| CRESTON | 81 | 49 | 63 | | 2.44 | | 30.04 | 20.95 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 80 | 49 | 64 | | 1.98 | | 38.34 | 23.92 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 81 | 50 | 63 | - 2 | 1.48 | 0.67 | 28.91 | 20.37 | 22.45 |
| BELINGTON | 81 | 44 | 61 | | 2.92 | | 31.40 | 23.04 | |
| WESTON | 85 | 46 | 63 | | 1.74 | | 38.35 | 28.13 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 82 | 53 | 67 | | 0.67 | | 29.19 | 24.39 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 83 | 51 | 67 | 0 | 0.28 | 0.70 | 32.10 | 15.94 | 21.89 |
| CHARLESTON | 81 | 47 | 64 | - 3 | 2.27 | 0.77 | 28.82 | 18.30 | 22.28 |
| RIPLEY | 80 | 46 | 64 | | 2.50 | | 33.88 | 21.64 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 74 | 36 | 59 | | 3.65 | | 44.57 | 27.41 | |
| ELKINS | 79 | 37 | 60 | - 1 | 3.02 | 0.87 | 36.26 | 25.25 | 24.13 |
| MARLINTON | 73 | 42 | 57 | | 1.98 | | 33.70 | 20.84 | |
| BECKLEY | 76 | 43 | 59 | - 3 | 2.09 | 0.79 | 34.56 | 19.60 | 21.78 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 82 | 50 | 65 | | 1.73 | | 41.15 | 21.79 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 78 | 45 | 61 | - 2 | 2.61 | 0.77 | 28.39 | 18.54 | 20.62 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 80 | 46 | 62 | | 2.26 | | 33.15 | 21.53 | |
| FLAT TOP | 76 | 43 | 59 | | 2.05 | | 34.61 | 19.63 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 79 | 48 | 66 | + 2 | 1.94 | 0.70 | 31.68 | 22.49 | 19.91 |
| ROMNEY | 79 | 39 | 61 | | 3.58 | | 30.45 | 20.90 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 86 | 47 | 67 | | 3.98 | | 33.32 | 21.82 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: September 29, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 29
FOR WEEK OF: September 22 - September 28

GENERAL

Wet fields continue to be a problem. Some tobacco losses were reported as a result of the wet conditions this season. Corn moisture remains above normal. Pastures are doing well in most areas. Some hoof problems were reported in livestock due to dampness.

Temperatures: West Virginia finally got a good taste of early fall weather this week. Warm temperatures early in the week, particularly in the South and West, reached into the 80's. A few 80's were also observed in the eastern panhandle. By late week, cold front delivered overnight lows in the 40's with a couple of sites dipping into the 30's. Overall, average temperatures were below normal for the state. The highest reported temperature was 87 degrees at Huntington. The lowest reported temperature was 39 degrees at Bluefield, Elkins and Romney. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 61 degrees.

Precipitation: Showers and thunderstorms associated with the cold front also dumped above normal rain for the week, Totals over one inch were common for the week and a few sites were at or above two inches. Nearly every reporting site reported above normal rainfall for this period. The state average was 1.30 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 3.6 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | PERCENT | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 72 | 28 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 63 | 37 |
| Last Year | 17 | 47 | 36 | -- |

Farm activities included hay harvesting, grain harvesting and planting.

FRUIT

Apple conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Apples were 47 percent harvested.

TOBACCO

Tobacco conditions were reported in very poor to good condition, with most in poor to good condition. Topping was 98 percent complete, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 100 percent for the 5-yr. average. Fields were 67 percent harvested, compared with 98 percent in 2002 and 83 percent for the 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| | PERCENT | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 1 | 23 | 67 | 9 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 16 | 75 | 8 |
| Apples | -- | 6 | 29 | 58 | 7 |
| Hay | -- | 4 | 27 | 55 | 14 |
| Pasture | -- | 2 | 25 | 52 | 21 |
| Corn | 3 | 10 | 32 | 49 | 6 |
| Soybeans | -- | 2 | 24 | 72 | 2 |
| Tobacco | 1 | 32 | 32 | 35 | -- |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. Fields were 68 percent in the dent stage, compared with 90 percent in 2002 and 81 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 32 percent mature, compared with 60 percent last year and 49 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 7 percent harvested for grain, compared with 12 percent last year and 13 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported as good. The crop was 55 percent in the dropping leaves stage compared with 88 percent at this time last year and 75 percent for a 5-yr. average. The crop was 2 percent harvested for grain, compared with 5 percent last year and 12 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter Wheat was 27 percent planted, compared with 45 percent in 2002 and 18 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 9 percent emerged compared to 35 percent this time last year.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most herds being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.

HAY

Hay conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. Second cutting was 84 percent complete, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 90 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | | WHEAT | | TOBACCO | | SOYBEANS | | HAY |
|----------|--------|--------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|---------------|-----------|---------------------|
| | DENTED | MATURE | HARVESTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | TOPPED | HARVESTED | DROPPING LVS. | HARVESTED | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 68 | 32 | 7 | 27 | 9 | 98 | 67 | 55 | 2 | 84 |
| 2002 | 90 | 60 | 12 | 45 | 35 | 100 | 98 | 88 | 5 | 100 |
| 5 YR AVG | 81 | 49 | 13 | 18 | NA | 100 | 83 | 75 | 12 | 90 |

NA-Not Available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 28, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | |
|------------------|------|-----|---------|-----------|---------------|------|-----------------|-------|-------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY | | WEEKS | | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | AVERAGE | DEPARTURE | TOTAL | NORM | 2003 | 2002 | |
| --NORTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 74 | 48 | 60 | | 0.70 | | 21.23 | 22.21 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 77 | 47 | 61 | - 3 | 1.00 | 0.70 | 35.01 | 20.72 | 22.72 |
| CRESTON | 77 | 44 | 60 | | 1.03 | | 31.07 | 22.69 | |
| --NORTHCENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 74 | 46 | 62 | | 1.35 | | 39.69 | 26.02 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 76 | 45 | 60 | - 2 | 1.35 | 0.63 | 30.26 | 22.53 | 23.08 |
| BELINGTON | 77 | 42 | 60 | | 1.14 | | 32.54 | 24.93 | |
| WESTON | 80 | 45 | 63 | | 1.92 | | 40.27 | 30.13 | |
| --SOUTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 80 | 47 | 63 | | 1.35 | | 30.54 | 26.21 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 87 | 46 | 63 | - 2 | 1.30 | 0.63 | 33.40 | 18.59 | 22.52 |
| CHARLESTON | 82 | 44 | 61 | - 4 | 0.91 | 0.70 | 29.73 | 20.13 | 22.98 |
| RIPLEY | 80 | 45 | 60 | | 1.76 | | 35.64 | 23.84 | |
| --CENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 71 | 41 | 58 | | 1.99 | | 46.56 | 29.10 | |
| ELKINS | 77 | 40 | 60 | + 1 | 1.14 | 0.82 | 37.40 | 27.32 | 24.95 |
| MARLINTON | 72 | 39 | 55 | | 1.04 | | 34.74 | 23.70 | |
| BECKLEY | 74 | 40 | 57 | - 3 | 0.72 | 0.77 | 35.28 | 21.86 | 22.55 |
| --SOUTHERN-- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 83 | 46 | 63 | | 0.95 | | 42.10 | 23.79 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 77 | 39 | 59 | - 2 | 0.89 | 0.73 | 29.28 | 19.99 | 21.35 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 79 | 44 | 60 | | 2.92 | | 36.07 | 23.75 | |
| FLAT TOP | 74 | 40 | 57 | | 0.72 | | 35.33 | 21.89 | |
| --NORTHEASTERN-- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 79 | 46 | 64 | + 2 | 1.92 | 0.70 | 33.60 | 24.77 | 20.61 |
| ROMNEY | 84 | 39 | 62 | | 1.73 | | 32.18 | 23.14 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 86 | 43 | 64 | | 0.76 | | 34.08 | 24.56 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: October 7, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 30
FOR WEEK OF: September 29 - October 5

GENERAL

Many areas across the state reported frost with some areas reporting killing frost. Wet fields remain a problem. Corn moisture is still reported above normal.

Temperatures: It was a chilly week across West Virginia. Average temperatures were well below normal state-wide. Frost and freeze warnings were issued for several sites as temperatures fell into the lower 20's, especially in the mountains. The highest reported temperature was 71 degrees at Huntington and Williamson. The lowest reported temperature was 21 degrees at Marlinton. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 47 degrees.

Precipitation: Rainfall for the week was generally around one half inch or less. A few sites, particularly in the central and north central portions of the state, had up to an inch of rain. For the most part, total rainfall was below normal for the week. The state average was 0.50 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 4.0 last week.

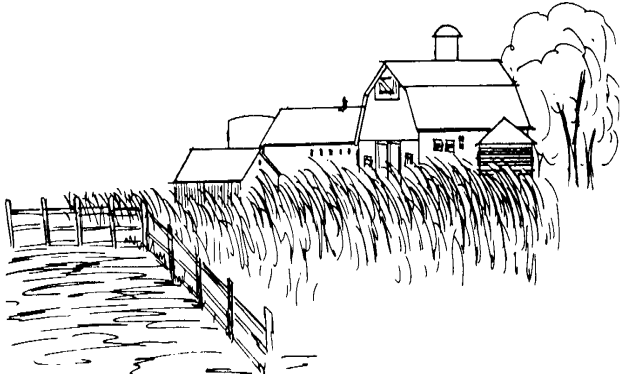
TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | PERCENT | | | |
| Current Week | -- | -- | 80 | 20 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 72 | 28 |
| Last Year | 15 | 50 | 35 | -- |

Farm activities included hay harvesting, grain harvesting and planting.

FRUIT

Apple conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Apples were 61 percent harvested.



CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----|
| | PERCENT | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 1 | 22 | 70 | 7 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 14 | 78 | 7 |
| Apples | -- | 7 | 29 | 57 | 7 |
| Hay | -- | 4 | 29 | 61 | 6 |
| Pasture | -- | 2 | 28 | 56 | 14 |
| Corn | 3 | 9 | 30 | 53 | 5 |
| Soybeans | -- | 2 | 26 | 70 | 2 |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. Fields were 79 percent in the dent stage, compared with 92 percent in 2002 and 90 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 46 percent mature, compared with 75 percent last year and 65 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 9 percent harvested for grain, compared with 20 percent last year and 22 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported as good. The crop was 75 percent in the dropping leaves stage compared with 90 percent at this time last year and 83 percent for a 5-yr. average. The crop was 3 percent harvested for grain, compared with 15 percent last year and 18 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter Wheat was 42 percent planted, compared with 48 percent in 2002 and 29 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 29 percent emerged compared to 45 percent this time last year.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most herds being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.

HAY

Hay conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. Second cutting was 90 percent complete, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 92 percent for the 5-yr. average.

TOBACCO

Tobacco was 94 percent harvested, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 95 percent for the 5-yr. average.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | | WHEAT | | TOBACCO | SOYBEANS | | HAY |
|----------|--------|--------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|---------------|-----------|---------------------|
| | DENTED | MATURE | HARVESTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | HARVESTED | DROPPING LVS. | HARVESTED | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 79 | 46 | 9 | 42 | 29 | 94 | 75 | 3 | 90 |
| 2002 | 92 | 75 | 20 | 48 | 45 | 100 | 90 | 15 | 100 |
| 5 YR AVG | 90 | 65 | 22 | 29 | NA | 95 | 83 | 18 | 92 |

NA-Not Available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

| TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 5, 2003 | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| STATION | TEMPERATURE | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | |
| | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | TOTAL | WEEKS NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM | |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 65 | 31 | 50 | | | 0.58 | | 21.81 | 22.50 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 67 | 31 | 49 | - 12 | | 0.57 | 0.70 | 35.58 | 21.19 | 23.42 |
| CRESTON | 65 | 28 | 48 | | | 0.58 | | 31.65 | 23.06 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 60 | 28 | 47 | | | 0.77 | | 40.46 | 26.28 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 62 | 29 | 47 | - 12 | | 0.80 | 0.67 | 31.06 | 22.80 | 23.75 |
| BELINGTON | 63 | 24 | 43 | | | 0.94 | | 33.48 | 25.25 | |
| WESTON | 68 | 30 | 50 | | | 0.60 | | 40.87 | 30.73 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 71 | 29 | 51 | | | 0.48 | | 31.02 | 26.30 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 71 | 31 | 50 | - 12 | | 0.49 | 0.63 | 33.89 | 19.32 | 23.15 |
| CHARLESTON | 68 | 27 | 48 | - 13 | | 0.59 | 0.66 | 30.32 | 20.49 | 23.64 |
| RIPLEY | 65 | 30 | 48 | | | 0.38 | | 36.02 | 24.33 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 56 | 25 | 42 | | | 0.76 | | 47.32 | 29.28 | |
| ELKINS | 61 | 26 | 45 | - 11 | | 1.10 | 0.74 | 38.50 | 27.54 | 25.69 |
| MARLINTON | 56 | 21 | 40 | | | 0.22 | | 34.96 | 23.85 | |
| BECKLEY | 59 | 24 | 44 | - 13 | | 0.34 | 0.72 | 35.62 | 21.96 | 23.27 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 64 | 32 | 50 | | | 0.26 | | 42.36 | 23.79 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 63 | 25 | 44 | - 14 | | 0.07 | 0.70 | 29.35 | 20.10 | 22.05 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 65 | 24 | 45 | | | 0.13 | | 36.20 | 23.81 | |
| FLAT TOP | 59 | 24 | 43 | | | 0.46 | | 35.79 | 21.99 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 64 | 30 | 49 | - 9 | | 0.45 | 0.70 | 34.05 | 24.77 | 21.31 |
| ROMNEY | 66 | 24 | 45 | | | 0.29 | | 32.47 | 23.18 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 66 | 27 | 42 | | | 0.21 | | 34.29 | 24.69 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: October 14, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 31
FOR WEEK OF: October 6 - October 12

GENERAL

This was a good week for harvesting corn, soybeans, and hay and planting wheat.

Temperatures: It was a warm and dry week. Temperatures averaged 2 to 5 degrees above normal. Afternoon highs reached into the 70s with some 80 degree readings in the warmer urban areas. The highest reported temperature was 82 degrees at Williamson. The lowest reported temperature was 36 degrees at Romney. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 60 degrees.

Precipitation: Rainfall was well below normal. Several areas reported zero precipitation. The state average was 0.04 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 5.7 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| PERCENT | | | | |
| Current Week | -- | 1 | 89 | 10 |
| Last Week | -- | -- | 80 | 20 |
| Last Year | 9 | 41 | 47 | 3 |

Farm activities included harvesting corn, soybeans and hay, planting wheat and marketing cattle.



FRUIT

Apple conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Apples were 72 percent harvested.

HAY

Hay second cutting was 91 percent complete, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 95 percent for the 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

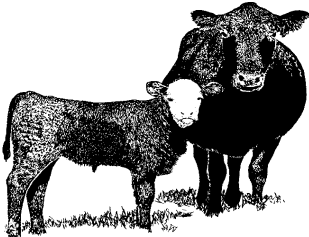
| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| PERCENT | | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | -- | 18 | 74 | 8 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | -- | 12 | 82 | 6 |
| Apples | -- | 7 | 29 | 57 | 7 |
| Pasture | -- | 1 | 26 | 53 | 20 |
| Corn | 3 | 7 | 30 | 57 | 3 |
| Soybeans | -- | 2 | 26 | 70 | 2 |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. Fields were 84 percent in the dent stage, compared with 93 percent in 2002 and 93 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 58 percent mature, compared with 78 percent last year and 77 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 12 percent harvested for grain, compared with 38 percent last year and 30 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported as good. The crop was 91 percent in the dropping leaves stage compared with 91 percent at this time last year and 90 percent for a 5-yr. average. The crop was 18 percent harvested for grain, compared with 38 percent last year and 30 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter Wheat was 62 percent planted, compared with 51 percent in 2002 and 36 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 35 percent emerged compared to 48 percent this time last year.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle conditions ranged from fair to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from fair to excellent, with most herds being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.



HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | | WHEAT | | SOYBEANS | | HAY |
|----------|--------|--------|-----------|---------|---------|---------------|-----------|---------------------|
| | DENTED | MATURE | HARVESTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | DROPPING LVS. | HARVESTED | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 84 | 58 | 12 | 62 | 35 | 91 | 18 | 91 |
| 2002 | 93 | 78 | 38 | 51 | 48 | 91 | 38 | 100 |
| 5 YR AVG | 93 | 77 | 30 | 36 | NA | 90 | 30 | 95 |

NA-Not Available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above normal. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 12, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | |
|------------------|------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | WEEKS TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| --NORTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 78 | 39 | 60 | | 0.00 | | 21.81 | 23.15 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 78 | 41 | 61 | + 3 | 0.05 | 0.64 | 35.63 | 22.86 | 24.06 |
| CRESTON | 79 | 41 | 60 | | 0.02 | | 31.67 | 25.44 | |
| --NORTHCENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 75 | 37 | 59 | | 0.00 | | 40.46 | 27.48 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 75 | 40 | 58 | + 2 | 0.00 | 0.63 | 31.06 | 24.56 | 24.38 |
| BELINGTON | 76 | 38 | 57 | | 0.02 | | 33.50 | 27.02 | |
| WESTON | 80 | 40 | 61 | | 0.00 | | 40.87 | 32.55 | |
| --SOUTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 82 | 51 | 67 | | 0.10 | | 31.12 | 27.82 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 81 | 46 | 64 | + 5 | 0.00 | 0.63 | 33.89 | 21.30 | 23.78 |
| CHARLESTON | 78 | 44 | 61 | + 2 | 0.03 | 0.63 | 30.35 | 22.17 | 24.27 |
| RIPLEY | 78 | 42 | 60 | | 0.02 | | 36.04 | 26.35 | |
| --CENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 72 | 37 | 56 | | 0.00 | | 47.32 | 30.64 | |
| ELKINS | 77 | 43 | 58 | + 5 | 0.00 | 0.70 | 38.50 | 28.84 | 26.39 |
| MARLINTON | 69 | 38 | 54 | | 0.02 | | 34.98 | 24.80 | |
| BECKLEY | 71 | 41 | 57 | + 2 | 0.00 | 0.68 | 35.62 | 22.53 | 23.95 |
| --SOUTHERN-- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 76 | 48 | 62 | | 0.02 | | 42.38 | 24.16 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 72 | 40 | 58 | + 2 | 0.27 | 0.66 | 29.62 | 20.55 | 22.71 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 74 | 42 | 59 | | 0.27 | | 36.47 | 24.25 | |
| FLAT TOP | 71 | 41 | 57 | | 0.00 | | 35.79 | 22.56 | |
| --NORTHEASTERN-- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 78 | 40 | 59 | + 4 | 0.01 | 0.75 | 34.06 | 26.55 | 22.06 |
| ROMNEY | 80 | 36 | 57 | | 0.00 | | 32.47 | 24.76 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 77 | 42 | 61 | | 0.00 | | 34.29 | 26.00 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: October 20, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 32
FOR WEEK OF: October 13 - October 19

GENERAL

Hay, corn and soybean harvesting continued during the week. Marketing of cattle remained steady while prices were good. No major damage was reported from the front, containing high winds, that passed through early in the week.

Temperatures: Temperatures were near normal to below normal for the area due to several good cold fronts that came across the state on Tuesday. The highest reported temperature was 79 degrees at Williamson. The lowest reported temperature was 28 degrees at Marlinton. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 52 degrees.

Precipitation: Precipitation was near double the normal due to the cold front that came across the state on Tuesday afternoon. Most of the rainfall accrued early Wednesday. A smaller rainfall occurred Friday night into early Saturday. The state average was 1.17 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 5.0 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | PERCENT | | | |
| Current Week | -- | 1 | 94 | 5 |
| Last Week | -- | 1 | 89 | 10 |
| Last Year | 1 | 27 | 69 | 3 |

Farm activities included harvesting corn, soybeans and hay, planting wheat and marketing cattle.

FRUIT

Apple conditions were reported poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Apples were 80 percent harvested.



HAY

Hay second cutting was 93 percent complete, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 100 percent for the 5-yr. average.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

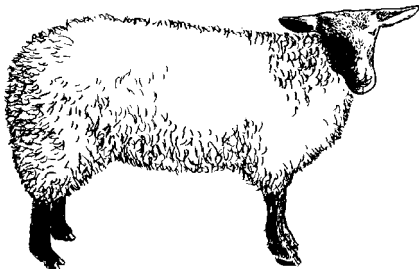
| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| | PERCENT | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 1 | 22 | 72 | 5 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 19 | 73 | 7 |
| Apples | -- | 7 | 29 | 57 | 7 |
| Pasture | -- | 2 | 37 | 53 | 8 |
| Corn | 2 | 7 | 23 | 52 | 16 |
| Soybeans | -- | 1 | 27 | 71 | 1 |

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. Fields were 85 percent in the dent stage, compared with 100 percent in 2002 and 97 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 60 percent mature, compared with 91 percent last year and 90 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 15 percent harvested for grain, compared with 47 percent last year and 40 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported as good. The crop was 92 percent in the dropping leaves stage compared with 98 percent at this time last year and 95 percent for a 5-yr. average. The crop was 22 percent harvested for grain, compared with 44 percent last year and 45 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter Wheat was 65 percent planted, compared with 64 percent in 2002 and 47 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 40 percent emerged compared with 51 percent this time last year and 20 percent for a 5-yr. average.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most herds being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.



HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | | WHEAT | | SOYBEANS | | HAY |
|----------|--------|--------|-----------|---------|---------|---------------|-----------|---------------------|
| | DENTED | MATURE | HARVESTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | DROPPING LVS. | HARVESTED | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 85 | 60 | 15 | 65 | 40 | 92 | 22 | 93 |
| 2002 | 100 | 91 | 47 | 64 | 51 | 98 | 44 | 100 |
| 5 YR AVG | 97 | 90 | 40 | 47 | 20 | 95 | 45 | 100 |

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above normal. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 19, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | |
|------------------|------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | WEEKS TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| --NORTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 73 | 40 | 52 | | | 1.63 | | 23.44 | 24.96 |
| PARKERSBURG | 75 | 40 | 53 | - 2 | | 1.27 | 0.69 | 36.90 | 24.41 |
| CRESTON | 76 | 35 | 53 | | | 0.62 | | 32.29 | 27.24 |
| --NORTHCENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 74 | 36 | 52 | | | 1.52 | | 41.98 | 28.41 |
| CLARKSBURG | 75 | 37 | 52 | - 1 | | 0.94 | 0.63 | 32.00 | 26.43 |
| BELINGTON | 75 | 32 | 50 | | | 1.11 | | 34.61 | 28.82 |
| WESTON | 77 | 37 | 55 | | | 1.30 | | 42.17 | 34.63 |
| --SOUTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 79 | 40 | 56 | | | 0.71 | | 31.83 | 29.62 |
| HUNTINGTON | 76 | 41 | 56 | 0 | | 0.61 | 0.63 | 34.50 | 22.78 |
| CHARLESTON | 76 | 37 | 54 | - 2 | | 0.70 | 0.63 | 31.05 | 24.04 |
| RIPLEY | 74 | 37 | 53 | | | 0.45 | | 36.49 | 28.52 |
| --CENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 70 | 35 | 48 | | | 1.28 | | 48.60 | 31.89 |
| ELKINS | 73 | 29 | 50 | 0 | | 1.23 | 0.68 | 39.73 | 30.95 |
| MARLINTON | 71 | 28 | 47 | | | 1.37 | | 36.35 | 26.64 |
| BECKLEY | 72 | 34 | 51 | - 1 | | 1.59 | 0.63 | 37.21 | 24.76 |
| --SOUTHERN-- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 74 | 37 | 54 | | | 2.00 | | 44.38 | 26.44 |
| BLUEFIELD | 74 | 33 | 51 | - 3 | | 1.27 | 0.63 | 30.89 | 22.59 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 75 | 31 | 51 | | | 1.02 | | 37.49 | 26.10 |
| FLAT TOP | 72 | 34 | 51 | | | 1.59 | | 37.38 | 24.82 |
| --NORTHEASTERN-- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 72 | 36 | 53 | 0 | | 1.28 | 0.77 | 35.34 | 27.99 |
| ROMNEY | 75 | 30 | 51 | | | 1.11 | | 33.58 | 26.22 |
| MOOREFIELD | 75 | 35 | 54 | | | 1.19 | | 35.48 | 27.42 |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia University Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: November 3, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 34
FOR WEEK OF: October 27 - November 2

GENERAL

Unseasonably warm temperatures provided nice weather for harvesting crops, planting wheat, and performing maintenance activities in preparation for winter.

Temperatures: The first part of the week we had mild temperatures. The rest of the week temperatures warmed up above normal to summer-like weather. Daily highs were around the 50's to low 60's through Wednesday and then blasted into the 70's and 80's. Record highs were threatened on Sunday and even a new high of 77 was set at Beckley that day. Overnight lows were in the 30's and 40's through Thursday and then warmed into the 40's and 50's the rest of the week. The highest reported temperature was 86 degrees at Moorefield. The lowest reported temperature was 26 degrees at Marlinton and Romney. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 53 degrees.

Precipitation: Rainfall mostly occurred on Wednesday with totals less than 0.4 inches that day. Even lighter amounts fell on Monday. The state average was 0.54 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 5.1 last week.

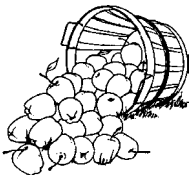
TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | PERCENT | | | |
| Current Week | -- | 2 | 90 | 8 |
| Last Week | -- | 1 | 87 | 12 |
| Last Year | -- | 14 | 76 | 10 |

Farm activities included hay harvesting, small grain planting, working livestock, preparations for winter and maintenance of farm facilities.

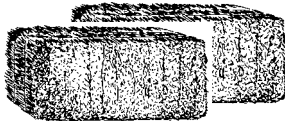
FRUIT

Apple were 90 percent harvested.



HAY

Hay second cutting was 95 percent complete.



CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----|
| | PERCENT | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 1 | 15 | 80 | 4 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 12 | 81 | 6 |
| Pasture | -- | 3 | 25 | 55 | 17 |
| Wheat | -- | -- | 21 | 77 | 2 |



GRAINS

Corn was 90 percent mature. The crop was 36 percent harvested for grain, compared with 65 percent last year and 60 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybeans were 62 percent harvested for grain, compared with 55 percent last year and 66 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter Wheat conditions ranged from fair to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. Fields were 78 percent planted, compared with 85 percent in 2002 and 72 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 49 percent emerged compared with 76 percent this time last year and 46 percent for a 5-yr. average.



LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most herds being in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were reported as good.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | | WHEAT | | SOYBEANS | HAY |
|----------|--------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|---------------------|
| | MATURE | HARVESTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | HARVESTED | 2 nd Cut |
| 2003 | 90 | 36 | 78 | 49 | 62 | 95 |
| 2002 | NA | 65 | 85 | 76 | 55 | NA |
| 5 YR AVG | NA | 60 | 72 | 46 | 66 | NA |

NA- Not Available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above normal. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 2, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | |
|------------------|------|-----|---------|---------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | AVERAGE | WEEKLY DEPARTURE | WEEKS TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| --NORTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 78 | 35 | 56 | | | 0.19 | 24.60 | 26.06 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 80 | 35 | 56 | + 5 | | 0.10 0.70 | 38.03 | 26.18 | 26.15 |
| CRESTON | 81 | 32 | 53 | | | 0.71 | 33.73 | 28.57 | |
| --NORTHCENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 77 | 34 | 55 | | | 0.61 | 43.18 | 29.74 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 78 | 33 | 53 | + 5 | | 0.72 0.73 | 33.21 | 28.07 | 26.44 |
| BELINGTON | 80 | 29 | 51 | | | 0.65 | 35.73 | 30.23 | |
| WESTON | 82 | 35 | 54 | | | 0.75 | 43.62 | 36.03 | |
| --SOUTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 85 | 37 | 58 | | | 0.47 | 32.83 | 32.84 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 83 | 33 | 56 | + 5 | | 0.12 0.69 | 35.77 | 24.55 | 25.73 |
| CHARLESTON | 83 | 32 | 55 | + 4 | | 0.49 0.73 | 32.10 | 25.67 | 26.29 |
| RIPLEY | 81 | 34 | 54 | | | 0.44 | 38.01 | 29.77 | |
| --CENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 74 | 31 | 53 | | | 0.58 | 49.70 | 33.25 | |
| ELKINS | 79 | 29 | 51 | + 5 | | 0.89 0.70 | 41.00 | 32.81 | 28.45 |
| MARLINTON | 74 | 26 | 45 | | | 0.54 | 37.56 | 29.55 | |
| BECKLEY | 78 | 28 | 48 | 0 | | 0.50 0.63 | 38.08 | 26.95 | 25.84 |
| --SOUTHERN-- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 82 | 34 | 53 | | | 0.76 | 45.60 | 28.91 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 81 | 31 | 50 | + 1 | | 0.50 0.63 | 32.07 | 23.86 | 24.60 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 78 | 29 | 49 | | | 0.49 | 38.58 | 28.62 | |
| FLAT TOP | 78 | 28 | 48 | | | 0.50 | 38.25 | 27.01 | |
| --NORTHEASTERN-- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 80 | 32 | 54 | + 5 | | 0.80 0.77 | 36.57 | 29.83 | 24.37 |
| ROMNEY | 84 | 26 | 51 | | | 0.52 | 34.57 | 28.30 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 86 | 31 | 56 | | | 0.50 | 36.36 | 29.05 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: November 10, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 35
FOR WEEK OF: November 3 - November 9

GENERAL

A mild week of weather allowed hay moving, some late hay making, harvesting grains, planting wheat and general farm preparation for winter.

Temperatures: Unseasonable warm temperatures started the week, overall temperatures averaged 1 to 5 degrees above normal. The highest reported temperature was 88 degrees at Williamson. The lowest reported temperature was 14 degrees at Romney. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 50 degrees.

Precipitation: Precipitation was above normal with the exception of the northeastern counties. The greatest amount was 2.03 inches at Weston. The state average was 1.28 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 4.0 last week.

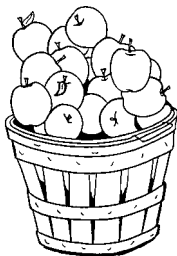
TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|-----------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | PERCENT | | | |
| Current Week | -- | 2 | 71 | 27 |
| Last Week | -- | 2 | 90 | 8 |
| Last Year | -- | 7 | 72 | 21 |

Farm activities included grain harvesting, late hay making and bale moving, marketing cattle and preparing for winter.

FRUIT

Apple were 96 percent harvested.



CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|--------------------|--------------|------|------|------|-----|
| | PERCENT | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 2 | 21 | 71 | 6 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 14 | 77 | 8 |
| Wheat | -- | -- | 19 | 80 | 1 |



GRAINS

Corn was 61 percent harvested for grain, compared with 76 percent last year and 75 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybeans were 66 percent harvested for grain, compared with 68 percent last year and 80 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter Wheat conditions ranged from fair to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. Fields were 83 percent planted, compared with 99 percent in 2002 and 88 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 63 percent emerged compared with 83 percent this time last year and 60 percent for a 5-yr. average.



LIVESTOCK

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most herds being in good condition.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | WHEAT | | SOYBEANS |
|----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| | HARVESTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | HARVESTED |
| 2003 | 61 | 83 | 63 | 66 |
| 2002 | 76 | 99 | 83 | 68 |
| 5 YR AVG | 75 | 88 | 60 | 80 |

NA- Not Available

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above normal. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 9, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|---------|---------------------|----------------|------|-----------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | AVERAGE | WEEKLY DEPARTURE | WEEKS TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM | |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 81 | 23 | 49 | | | 0.59 | | 25.19 | 27.31 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 82 | 28 | 50 | + 1 | | 0.81 | 0.77 | 38.84 | 28.06 | 26.92 |
| CRESTON | 83 | 24 | 49 | | | 1.04 | | 34.77 | 30.16 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 80 | 24 | 50 | | | 0.81 | | 43.99 | 30.85 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 79 | 25 | 49 | + 2 | | 1.58 | 0.77 | 34.79 | 29.08 | 27.21 |
| BELINGTON | 83 | 20 | 49 | | | 1.17 | | 36.90 | 31.36 | |
| WESTON | 85 | 25 | 51 | | | 2.03 | | 45.65 | 37.55 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 88 | 32 | 55 | | | 1.67 | | 34.50 | 34.59 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 84 | 32 | 53 | + 4 | | 1.83 | 0.74 | 37.60 | 26.49 | 26.47 |
| CHARLESTON | 83 | 28 | 51 | + 1 | | 1.83 | 0.81 | 33.93 | 27.50 | 27.10 |
| RIPLEY | 82 | 27 | 50 | | | 1.20 | | 39.21 | 31.85 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 78 | 22 | 48 | | | 1.84 | | 51.54 | 34.75 | |
| ELKINS | 83 | 21 | 48 | + 4 | | 1.43 | 0.75 | 42.43 | 34.24 | 29.20 |
| MARLINTON | 76 | 18 | 46 | | | 0.92 | | 38.48 | 31.22 | |
| BECKLEY | 79 | 26 | 49 | + 3 | | 1.60 | 0.68 | 39.68 | 28.53 | 26.52 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 80 | 29 | 52 | | | 1.83 | | 47.43 | 30.69 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 80 | 28 | 51 | + 3 | | 1.08 | 0.63 | 33.15 | 25.98 | 25.23 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 81 | 24 | 50 | | | 1.63 | | 40.21 | 30.40 | |
| FLAT TOP | 79 | 26 | 49 | | | 1.60 | | 39.85 | 28.59 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 81 | 18 | 52 | + 5 | | 0.33 | 0.76 | 36.90 | 30.81 | 25.13 |
| ROMNEY | 85 | 14 | 48 | | | 0.62 | | 35.19 | 29.06 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 85 | 18 | 49 | | | 0.82 | | 37.18 | 29.65 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: November 17, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 36
FOR WEEK OF: November 10 - November 16

GENERAL

A storm front passed through the state Wednesday and Thursday bringing high winds and flash flooding to many areas, causing some damage to standing corn. Wet conditions continue to be a problem.

Temperatures: A strong cold front moved across the region early Thursday producing near to below averages for the week. The highest reported temperature was 72 degrees at Williamson. The lowest reported temperature was 14 degrees at Romney. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 43 degrees.

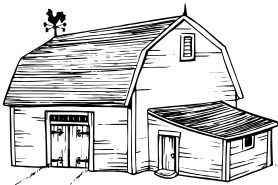
Precipitation: As the cold front approached the area on Wednesday, very heavy rain was seen over most of the southwestern and central part of the area. Rainfall amounts of 2 to 3 inches or more produced rainfall totals of up to 3 to 5 times the average across much of the area. The state average was 1.70 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 3.0 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | PERCENT | | | |
| Current Week | – | – | 75 | 25 |
| Last Week | -- | 2 | 71 | 27 |
| Last Year | – | 2 | 80 | 18 |

Farm activities included grain harvesting, late hay making and bale moving, marketing cattle and preparing for winter.



FRUIT

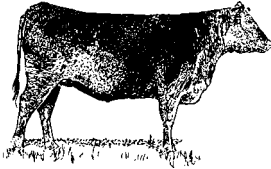
Apples were 97 percent harvested.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----|
| | PERCENT | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 1 | 20 | 72 | 7 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 1 | 18 | 72 | 9 |
| Wheat | -- | -- | 17 | 81 | 2 |

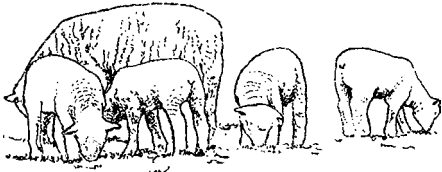
GRAINS

Corn was 71 percent harvested for grain, compared with 78 percent last year and 83 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybeans were 75 percent harvested for grain, compared with 70 percent last year and 87 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter Wheat conditions ranged from fair to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. Fields were 87 percent planted, compared with 99 percent in 2002 and 94 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 73 percent emerged compared with 90 percent this time last year and 66 percent for a 5-yr. average.



LIVESTOCK

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most herds being in good condition.



HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | WHEAT | | SOYBEANS |
|----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| | HARVESTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | HARVESTED |
| 2003 | 71 | 87 | 73 | 75 |
| 2002 | 78 | 99 | 90 | 70 |
| 5 YR AVG | 83 | 94 | 66 | 87 |

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above normal. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 16, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | | |
|------------------|------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|-------|---------------|-----------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | WEEKS DEPARTURE | TOTAL | WEEKS NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM | |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | | |
| --NORTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 62 | 31 | 45 | | | 0.10 | | 25.29 | 28.18 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 64 | 30 | 45 | - 1 | | 1.66 | 0.77 | 40.50 | 28.72 | 27.69 |
| CRESTON | 64 | 23 | 43 | | | 1.29 | | 36.06 | 31.21 | |
| --NORTHCENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 63 | 28 | 46 | | | 1.74 | | 45.73 | 32.01 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 63 | 24 | 43 | - 1 | | 2.77 | 0.83 | 37.56 | 30.23 | 28.04 |
| BELINGTON | 63 | 21 | 43 | | | 1.82 | | 38.72 | 33.08 | |
| WESTON | 63 | 25 | 44 | | | 2.00 | | 47.65 | 39.30 | |
| --SOUTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 72 | 27 | 48 | | | 1.11 | | 35.61 | 35.67 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 69 | 29 | 48 | + 1 | | 2.56 | 0.77 | 40.16 | 27.21 | 27.24 |
| CHARLESTON | 68 | 25 | 45 | - 3 | | 4.23 | 0.84 | 38.16 | 28.59 | 27.94 |
| RIPLEY | 65 | 27 | 45 | | | 1.50 | | 40.71 | 32.57 | |
| --CENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 57 | 15 | 39 | | | 2.05 | | 53.59 | 36.25 | |
| ELKINS | 63 | 25 | 44 | + 2 | | 2.80 | 0.77 | 45.23 | 36.26 | 29.97 |
| MARLINTON | 57 | 19 | 36 | | | 2.37 | | 40.85 | 33.05 | |
| BECKLEY | 64 | 25 | 42 | - 2 | | 1.55 | 0.70 | 41.23 | 30.48 | 27.22 |
| --SOUTHERN-- | | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 66 | 27 | 43 | | | 1.33 | | 48.76 | 31.76 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 64 | 24 | 41 | - 5 | | 0.64 | 0.63 | 33.79 | 27.48 | 25.86 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 64 | 26 | 41 | | | 1.27 | | 41.48 | 32.27 | |
| FLAT TOP | 64 | 25 | 42 | | | 1.55 | | 41.40 | 30.54 | |
| --NORTHEASTERN-- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 58 | 30 | 45 | 0 | | 0.98 | 0.70 | 37.88 | 32.38 | 25.83 |
| ROMNEY | 64 | 14 | 40 | | | 1.10 | | 36.29 | 30.58 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 63 | 18 | 40 | | | 1.05 | | 38.23 | 31.28 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
 RELEASED: November 24, 2003

VOL. 03 NO. 37
 FOR WEEK OF: November 17 - November 23

This is the last weekly West Virginia Crop Weather Bulletin until April 1, 2004. Beginning December 31, we will publish a monthly version for the winter months.

We would like to thank the West Virginia County Extension offices, USDA Farm Service Agency offices and the National Weather Service for their valuable help in providing this publication.

GENERAL

Another round of flooding hit the state mid-week. Some areas experienced levels not seen in 50 years. Some fencing was damaged by debris.

Temperatures: Spring-like weather spread across West Virginia this week. Warm southerly winds ahead of a strong cold front pushed temperatures well above normal for the period with many sites reaching into the lower 70's. In the cold air behind the front, temperatures fell into the 20's and lower 30's. Overall, it was a normal week. The highest reported temperature was 75 degrees at Charleston and Williamson. The lowest reported temperature was 23 degrees at Romney. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 50 degrees.

Precipitation: Rain in advance of the front was heavy. Every location was well above normal for the week with a few sites receiving over two inches of rain. Flooding was common over a good portion of West Virginia late in the week. The state average was 2.06 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 3.0 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|--------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | PERCENT | | | |
| Current Week | – | – | 45 | 55 |
| Last Week | – | – | 75 | 25 |
| Last Year | – | 2 | 85 | 13 |

Farm activities were mostly limited by the flooding that occurred mid-week. Activities centered around clean-up and dealing with other problems resulting from the flooding.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

| YEAR | CORN | WHEAT | | SOYBEANS |
|----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| | HARVESTED | PLANTED | EMERGED | HARVESTED |
| 2003 | 80 | 94 | 80 | 79 |
| 2002 | 87 | 99 | 95 | 85 |
| 5 YR AVG | 89 | 99 | 76 | 93 |

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----|
| | PERCENT | | | | |
| Cattle & Calves | -- | 1 | 15 | 79 | 5 |
| Sheep & Lambs | -- | 2 | 12 | 74 | 12 |
| Wheat | -- | -- | 4 | 96 | -- |



GRAINS

Corn was 80 percent harvested for grain, compared with 87 percent last year and 89 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybeans were 79 percent harvested for grain, compared with 85 percent last year and 93 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter Wheat conditions ranged from fair to good, but most fields were estimated as good. Fields were 94 percent planted, compared with 99 percent in 2002 and 99 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 80 percent emerged compared with 95 percent this time last year and 76 percent for a 5-yr. average.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most herds being in good condition.

Enjoy the Holidays!



Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above normal. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 23, 2003

| TEMPERATURE | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|---------|---------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | AVERAGE | WEEKLY DEPARTURE | WEEKS TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | | SEASON NORM |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | |
| -----NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 70 | 32 | 52 | | | 0.00 | 25.29 | 28.86 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 70 | 37 | 52 | + 8 | | 2.28 0.77 | 42.78 | 29.45 | 28.46 |
| CRESTON | 71 | 31 | 50 | | | 2.75 | 38.81 | 31.81 | |
| -----NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 68 | 31 | 53 | | | 2.08 | 47.81 | 32.44 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 67 | 32 | 49 | + 7 | | 2.46 0.82 | 40.11 | 30.43 | 28.86 |
| BELINGTON | 73 | 29 | 50 | | | 1.95 | 40.67 | 34.19 | |
| WESTON | 72 | 32 | 52 | | | 2.80 | 50.45 | 40.08 | |
| -----SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 75 | 34 | 55 | | | 1.98 | 37.59 | 36.11 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 74 | 37 | 55 | + 10 | | 2.48 0.77 | 42.64 | 27.81 | 28.01 |
| CHARLESTON | 75 | 33 | 53 | + 8 | | 2.19 0.88 | 40.35 | 28.96 | 28.82 |
| RIPLEY | 71 | 34 | 51 | | | 1.80 | 42.51 | 33.14 | |
| -----CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 66 | 37 | 50 | | | 1.75 | 55.34 | 36.99 | |
| ELKINS | 74 | 27 | 49 | + 9 | 1.77 | 47.00 | 37.00 | 30.74 | |
| MARLINTON | 64 | 24 | 45 | | | 1.45 | 42.30 | 33.93 | |
| BECKLEY | 68 | 30 | 49 | + 7 | | 1.85 0.70 | 43.08 | 31.21 | 27.92 |
| -----SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 63 | 31 | 49 | | | 3.50 | 52.26 | 32.64 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 66 | 29 | 49 | + 6 | | 3.56 0.65 | 37.35 | 28.24 | 26.51 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 69 | 28 | 49 | | | 1.36 | 42.84 | 32.85 | |
| FLAT TOP | 68 | 30 | 49 | | | 2.85 | 44.25 | 31.27 | |
| -----NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 71 | 32 | 50 | + 7 | | 1.44 0.70 | 39.32 | 32.94 | 26.53 |
| ROMNEY | 72 | 23 | 47 | | | 1.56 | 37.85 | 30.91 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 70 | 24 | 48 | | | 1.54 | 39.77 | 31.93 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

This report is made possible through the cooperation of the West Virginia Extension Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency and the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Charleston, West Virginia.



West Virginia
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CROP-WEATHER BULLETIN

In Cooperation with:
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West Virginia Extension Service
WV Dept. of Agriculture
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SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: January, 5 2004

VOL. 03 NO. 38

December Summary of Weather and Agricultural Conditions December 1, 2003-January 4, 2004

Above normal amounts of rainfall during the summer and fall and some above average temperatures this month have provided favorable conditions for pasture growth, allowing livestock to graze longer and producers to feed less grain. However, the muddy conditions created by warmer temperatures and more precipitation have producers concerned about herd wellness. As some producers began to feed hay this month, concerns over hay quality remained.

The week ending **December 7** had above normal temperatures. The state average temperature was 33 degrees. Daily temperatures were in the mid 40's to mid 50's. The highest temperature was 62 degrees at Williamson. Lows were in the upper teens to mid 20's. Many locations shared the lowest temperature of 14 degrees; including Belington, Marlinton, Romney and Moorefield. Precipitation amounts were light and scattered through the week. The state average was 0.62 inches. The greatest amount received was 1.37 inches at Bluefield and the least was 0.25 of an inch at Huntington. Daily temperatures throughout the week ending **December 14** were mostly mild. The state average was 33 degrees. Temperatures stayed in the mid 40's to upper 50's providing weather similar to the previous week. The highest temperature was 61 degrees at Williamson. Lows ranged from 10 to 30 degrees. The lowest temperature of 10 degrees was at Terra Alta and Marlinton. Snowfall during the week was light and mainly in the mountains. Saturday's low overnight temperatures created some slick road conditions in some areas and less than an inch of snow accumulation in other parts of the state. Precipitation amounts were mostly between 1 and 2 inches. The state average was 1.39 inches. Parkersburg received the least amount of precipitation with only 0.71 on an inch of accumulation during the week. Average temperatures for the week ending **December 21** were from 3 to 9 degrees below normal. The state average temperature was 28 degrees. The highest temperature was 67 degrees in Williamson and the low was 4 degrees in both Marlinton and White Sulphur Springs. Precipitation was scattered throughout the week. During the weekend, particularly on Saturday evening into Sunday morning, snow accumulations made driving conditions hazardous throughout many areas across the state. The state-wide average precipitation was 0.56 inches. Pineville received the most accumulation with 1.29 inches while Martinsburg received the least with only 0.10 inches during the week. The week ending **December 28** was a welcome return to warmer temperatures. Average temperatures were at or above normal throughout the state. There were some overnight lows in the teens, but highs reaching into the 60s in many locations pulled the average readings up. The state average temperature was 28 degrees. The warmest recorded temperature for the week was 69 degrees in Charleston. The coldest reported temperature was 11 degrees at Belington and Marlinton. The air over the region was also drier than past weeks. Although we are still well above seasonal normals, this past week had below normal precipitation for the period. The average precipitation was 0.51 of an inch. 'Springtime in winter,' was the thought for the week ending **January 4**. Temperatures were well above normal for the state over the week. Warm southerly winds pushed readings into the 70's over the southern and northeastern counties with 60's elsewhere. Although not record temperatures, these readings were very unusual for the season. Statewide, the week's average temperature at 46 degrees was 11 degrees higher than last week. Romney had the high of 72 degrees, while 12 degrees was the low at Moorefield. The warm humid air also brought considerable rainfall. The most significant rains fell over the northwest and southwest counties where amounts over two inches were common. Statewide, the week's average rainfall at 1.48 inches was nearly one inch higher than last week.

For the week ending **January 4**, reported topsoil moisture was 52 percent adequate and 48 percent surplus. Wheat condition was reported as 48 percent fair, 46 percent good and 6 percent excellent. Cattle and calves and sheep and lambs were reported in poor to excellent condition with most herds being in good condition. Hay and roughage supplies were 5 percent short, 86 percent adequate and 5 percent surplus. Feed grain supplies were 9 percent short, 86 percent adequate and 9 percent surplus. Farm activities included feeding hay and grain and some clearing brush in fields.

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| TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING 01-04-2004 | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|-----|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| TEMPERATURE | | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | |
| STATION | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE DEPARTURE | WEEKS TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1 ST | | SEASON NORM | |
| | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | | |
| -NORTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 64 | 27 | 44 | | 3.45 | | 31.61 | 33.08 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 65 | 25 | 46 | + 15 | 2.41 | 0.63 | 48.37 | 33.68 | 32.80 |
| CRESTON | 68 | 20 | 46 | | 1.16 | | 45.38 | 37.24 | |
| -NORTHCENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 66 | 29 | 47 | | 2.56 | | 53.81 | 37.61 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 67 | 22 | 46 | + 15 | 1.46 | 0.68 | 46.00 | 36.54 | 33.39 |
| BELINGTON | 66 | 23 | 47 | | 1.24 | | 46.75 | 40.44 | |
| WESTON | 69 | 22 | 49 | | 1.46 | | 56.55 | 45.87 | |
| -SOUTHWEST----- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 68 | 25 | 48 | | 2.06 | | 43.33 | 42.15 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 70 | 22 | 48 | + 15 | 2.08 | 0.70 | 48.95 | 32.51 | 32.59 |
| CHARLESTON | 70 | 21 | 49 | + 16 | 2.27 | 0.70 | 46.55 | 32.41 | 33.44 |
| RIPLEY | 70 | 23 | 47 | | 2.07 | | 48.39 | 37.60 | |
| -CENTRAL----- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 61 | 26 | 45 | | 1.59 | | 61.57 | 43.69 | |
| ELKINS | 66 | 19 | 47 | + 16 | 0.88 | 0.72 | 52.46 | 44.33 | 35.46 |
| MARLINTON | 64 | 15 | 40 | | 0.76 | | 46.66 | 41.10 | |
| BECKLEY | 65 | 19 | 44 | + 13 | 1.10 | 0.70 | 47.37 | 38.13 | 32.28 |
| -SOUTHERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 67 | 23 | 44 | | 1.98 | | 59.17 | 38.48 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 64 | 20 | 45 | + 13 | 1.49 | 0.57 | 38.82 | 35.49 | 30.37 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 69 | 20 | 45 | | 0.78 | | 46.47 | 38.56 | |
| FLAT TOP | 65 | 19 | 44 | | 1.10 | | 48.44 | 38.20 | |
| -NORTHEASTERN----- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 71 | 20 | 45 | + 15 | 0.47 | 0.56 | 44.54 | 38.51 | 30.43 |
| ROMNEY | 72 | 18 | 42 | | 0.16 | | 41.54 | 35.35 | |
| MOOREFIELD | 71 | 12 | 44 | | 0.08 | | 43.34 | 36.97 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: February 3, 2004

Vol. 04 No. 01

January Summary of Weather and Agricultural Conditions
January 5 - February 1, 2004

West Virginia weather for the week ending **January 11th** finally felt more like winter compared to the spring-like weather we experienced during the week ending January 4th. A strong cold front brought much colder and drier air to the region. The state average temperature was 23 degrees. That was well below normal for this time of year. Departure from normal ranged from 10 to 3 degrees below normal in all regions. Daily high temperatures ranged from the upper 40's to 50's, with the highest being 58 degrees at White Sulphur Springs. Daily low temperatures ranged from -2 to 12 degrees. The lowest was -2 degrees at Marlinton, Terra Alta, and Romney. With only three of the National Weather Service's 22 sites reporting over one inch of precipitation, the state average was 0.47 inches. That was a full inch below the previous week. Temperatures rebounded a bit over the week ending **January 18th**. The state average was 5 degrees higher than the previous week. Highs ranged from the lower 40's to mid 50's. Williamson had the highest recorded temperature of 55 degrees and Elkins had the lowest recorded temperature of 1 degree. The state weekly average temperature was 28 degrees. Although the weekly average was below freezing, the warmer days occurred when most of the precipitation fell. As a result, the bulk of the precipitation fell as rain instead of snow. Similar to the previous week, only four locations reported over an inch of precipitation. The state's average precipitation was 0.72 inches. Belington reported the most precipitation with 1.23 inches while Petersburg had the least with only 0.05 inches. Below normal temperatures were evident throughout the state for the week ending **January 25th**. One particularly strong cold front dropped temperatures to the single digits at all sites except those in the extreme southern portion of the state. Departure from normal ranged from 4 to 13 degrees below normal for all regions. A high for the state was 44 degrees recorded at Williamson and the low was -4 degrees recorded at Belington. The state average temperature was 19 degrees. Most locations had an above normal weekly precipitation total. The bulk of the rain and snow fell on Sunday, January 25th when a strong system dumped a mixture of rain, snow, sleet, and freezing rain on the state. The state average precipitation was 0.60 inches. Morgantown reported the least amount of precipitation with only 0.19 inches, while Terra Alta received the most precipitation with 1.34 inches reported. For the week ending **February 1st**, temperatures varied from a high in the low 60s to below zero across the state. Throughout the state, departure from the normal ranged from 6 to 11 degrees below normal. The state average temperature was 20. The highest temperature was 57 degrees recorded at Williamson. The lowest temperature was -10 recorded at Creston. Precipitation was light throughout the state with only one location recording over 1 inch of precipitation. The state average precipitation was 0.41 inches.

For the week ending February 1st, reported topsoil moisture was 55 percent adequate, and 45 percent surplus compared to 3 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 17 percent surplus at this time last year. Wheat condition was reported as 15 percent fair, 83 percent good, and 2 percent excellent compared to 51 percent fair and 49 percent good last year. Pasture condition was reported as 15 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 45 percent good and 5 percent excellent. Cattle and calves and sheep and lambs were reported in poor to excellent condition, and most herds were reported in good condition. Above average temperatures during the beginning of the month of January in combination with a mild fall season allowed livestock to rely on pastures longer and require less than normal feeding of hay and grain this month. Hay and grain supplies ranged from short to surplus, but were mostly adequate. Farm activities included feeding and caring for livestock and insuring adequate water supplies. Producers report that lambing and calving have begun.



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SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: March 1, 2004

Vol. 04 No. 02

February Summary of Weather and Agricultural Conditions February 2 - February 29, 2004

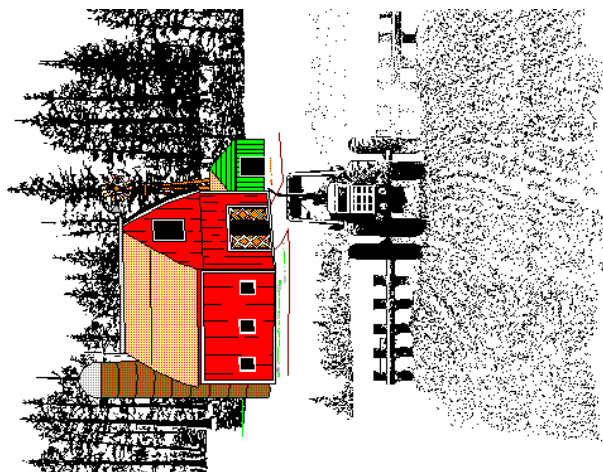
There was a variety of temperatures for the Mountain State for the week **ending February 8th**. Highs reached into the 50s for a day or so, the weekly average temperature was above normal. Where highs reached into the 40s, weekly averages were at or below normal. The state average temperature was 31 degrees. Departures from normal ranged from 2 degrees below normal to 3 degrees above normal. Daily high temperatures were in the upper 30's to lower 50's, with the highest being 53 degrees in Morgantown, Huntington, and Charleston. Overnight lows during the period ranged from 4 to 24 degrees. The lowest temperature of 4 degrees was recorded in Elkins, Marlinton, and Petersburg. Soggy weather continued for West Virginia over the week. A winter-like mix of rain, snow, sleet and freezing rain provided much above normal precipitation for the entire state. By week's end, rain and snow melt resulted in flooding at several locations. The state average precipitation was a whopping 2.53 inches, while the normal for this time of year is near 0.70 inches. The greatest amount received was 3.77 in. at Marlinton and the least was 1.40 in. at Beckley and Flat Top. Finally, a dry-out for the Mountain State for the **week ending February 16th**. Of the 22 sites used for this report, only 3 had reportable precipitation. Of those, the highest amount was only .03 inches in Charleston. Most sites have a normal of 0.60 to 0.70 inches for the week. The state average precipitation was zero inches. Temperatures were generally within a degree of normal for the period. One exception was in the Eastern Panhandle where Martinsburg was 3 degrees above normal. That is not to say there was no cold weather; because some overnight lows fell to the single digits during midweek. The state average temperature was 32 degrees. Departures ranged from 1 degree below normal to 3 degrees above normal temperatures. For the **week ending February 22nd**, day-time temperatures ranged from the mid 50's up to upper 60's degrees, with the exception of Weston's where the highest temperature across the state was found at 70 degrees. Overnight lows ranged from 2 degrees to 21 degrees. Departures from the normal ranged from 3 degrees above normal to 1 degree below normal. The lowest temperature of 2 degrees was recorded in Romney. The state average temperature was 35 degrees. As for precipitation, the week was a week of well below average amounts. Historically, normal precipitation ranged from 0.60 to 0.77 inches. During this week, precipitation ranged from .24 inches to zero. The weekly state average precipitation was .06 inches. We had spring-like weather conditions for the **week ending February 29th**. Temperatures pushed into the 60's at many locations and even hit 70 degrees in the Williamson area. We still had some overnight lows in teens, so average temperatures were near normal at most sites. The lowest temperature of 13 degrees was recorded in Marlinton. The state average temperature was 36 degrees. Precipitation was a different story. We continued to be well below normal for the week with 11 of the sites receiving less than one tenth of an inch of rain. The state average was a mere .11 inches, while normal would be in the 0.70 to 0.80 range.

For the **week ending February 29**, reported topsoil moisture was 2 percent short, 78 percent adequate and 20 percent surplus, compared to 33 percent adequate and 67 percent surplus at this time last year. Wheat condition was 49 percent fair, 46 percent good and 5 percent excellent compared to 9 percent poor, 39 percent fair and 52 percent good last year. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 1 percent very short, 7 percent short, 85 percent adequate and 7 percent surplus. Feed grain supplies were reported as 1 percent very short, 5 percent short, 88 percent adequate and 6 percent surplus. Tobacco seeding was 3 percent complete. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most in fair condition. Cattle and calves were reported in poor to excellent condition, with most in fair condition. Calving was 38 percent complete. Sheep and lambs were reported in poor to excellent condition, with most in fair to good condition. Lambing was 36% complete. There was some concern over poor hay quality from last year. Farm activities included preparing for spring activities such as fixing fence and checking fruit trees. Lambing and calving have been affected by the cold weather in some areas.

WEST VIRGINIA

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TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING 02-29-2004

| STATION | TEMPERATURE | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | SEASON NORM |
|------------------|-------------|-----|-------------------|-----------|----------------|------|-----------------------------|-------|-------|----------------|
| | HIGH | LOW | WEEKLY AVERAGE | DEPARTURE | WEEKS TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1 ST | | | |
| | | | | | | | 2003 | 2002 | | |
| --NORTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 60 | 24 | 38 | | | 0.08 | | 35.55 | 37.33 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 61 | 23 | 38 | 1 | | 0.03 | 0.77 | 51.81 | 38.67 | 37.89 |
| CRESTON | 64 | 17 | 36 | | | 0.13 | | 50.23 | 45.24 | |
| --NORTHCENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 61 | 21 | 37 | | | 0.29 | | 58.02 | 43.32 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 61 | 20 | 35 | 3 | | 0.10 | 0.74 | 50.87 | 43.54 | 38.83 |
| BELINGTON | 60 | 18 | 35 | | | 0.07 | | 53.37 | 48.10 | |
| WESTON | 63 | 20 | 38 | | | 0.15 | | 62.30 | 53.49 | |
| --SOUTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 70 | 21 | 41 | | | 0.26 | | 48.76 | 50.55 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 68 | 23 | 40 | 1 | | 0.10 | 0.77 | 54.12 | 39.55 | 38.04 |
| CHARLESTON | 67 | 20 | 38 | - 1 | | 0.11 | 0.82 | 51.22 | 39.73 | 39.12 |
| RIPLEY | 66 | 20 | 38 | | | 0.12 | | 52.41 | 44.67 | |
| --CENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 52 | 15 | 33 | | | 0.19 | | 68.53 | 51.53 | |
| ELKINS | 58 | 17 | 34 | 1 | | 0.04 | 0.81 | 57.54 | 51.11 | 41.27 |
| MARLINTON | 55 | 13 | 30 | | | 0.00 | | 51.96 | 48.64 | |
| BECKLEY | 61 | 17 | 34 | 1 | | 0.05 | 0.77 | 51.35 | 44.79 | 37.85 |
| --SOUTHERN-- | | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 63 | 22 | 39 | | | 0.16 | | 65.30 | 46.93 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 62 | 17 | 36 | - 1 | | 0.08 | 0.73 | 43.76 | 42.95 | 35.46 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 61 | 16 | 36 | | | 0.04 | | 50.99 | 45.20 | |
| FLAT TOP | 61 | 17 | 35 | | | 0.05 | | 52.42 | 44.86 | |
| --NORTHEASTERN-- | | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 64 | 20 | 37 | 2 | | 0.19 | 0.65 | 49.43 | 43.51 | 35.27 |
| ROMNEY | 63 | 14 | 33 | | | 0.09 | | 45.96 | 40.65 | |
| PETERSBURG | 62 | 16 | 34 | | | 0.00 | | 47.93 | 41.97 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV



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SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
RELEASED: March 29, 2004

Vol. 04 No.3

March Summary of Weather and Agricultural Conditions March 1 - March 28, 2004

Spring made a brief visit to the Mountain State for the **week ending March 7th**. With high temperatures reaching into the 80s for some sites, weekly average temperatures were well above normal. They were an unusual 10 to 17 degrees above normal. The warmest temperature was 82 degrees at Petersburg and the coldest was 22 degrees at Marlinton and Weston. The state average was 50 degrees. A strong cold front arrived during the weekend and temperatures were back to near normal readings for Saturday and Sunday. Heavy rain associated with the front brought an end to our unusual dry spell. Showers, and even a few thunderstorms, delivered over two inches of rain to several sites. Weston and Ripley had over 3 inches. The state average for the week was 1.97 inches. The arrival of the cold front at the end of last week continued with chilly weather across the state for the **week ending March 14th**. The warmest highs were generally in the 50's with a few sites hitting the lower 60's. Bluefield, at 63 degrees, had the highest temperature across the state. The lowest temperature at 15 degrees was found at Elkins, Ripley and Marlinton. Overall, daytime highs were much cooler and overnight lows were in the teens. As a result, the weekly average temperature was 36 degrees, which was well below normal. Precipitation was below normal as well. A few showers late in the week delivered a few tenths of an inch, but that was also far below the normal precipitation that ranged from 0.70 to 0.86 of an inch for the week. The state average precipitation during the week was 0.12 of an inch. It was a weather roller-coaster for West Virginia during the **week ending March 21st**. Temperatures ranged from overnight lows in the teens to afternoon highs in the 70's. The unusually warm afternoon readings only lasted one day, however. As a result, the average temperatures for the week were well below normal. The state average temperature was 39 degrees. The highest temperature was 78 degrees in Williamson and the lowest temperature was 12 degrees at Terra Alta. The same weather features that delivered the variety of temperatures also produced heavy showers on a couple of days. The state average for the week was 1.32 inches, which is considerably above the normal for this period. Temperatures were considerably warmer for the **week ending March 28th**. Highs reached into the 80's for a few locations with 70's at all other sites. The dramatic increase in the state average was due to the warmer overnight lows. There were readings in the teens early in the week, but much warmer lows were recorded for the balance of the week. The highest temperature for the week was 85 degrees at Romney. The lowest temperature was 10 degrees at Marlinton. The state average temperature was 49 degrees. Precipitation fell below normal this week after a very wet preceding week. There were just a few showers around and no organized systems affected the Mountain State. The state average precipitation was 0.13 of an inch.

For the week ending March 28th, topsoil moisture was 91 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus, compared 3 percent short, 79 percent adequate and 18 percent surplus at this time last year. Wheat condition was reported as 43 percent fair, 49 percent good and 8 percent excellent, compared to 13 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 1 percent excellent this time last year. Tobacco beds were 25 percent seeded, compared to 22 percent last year.

Cattle and calves condition ranged from poor to excellent, but mostly in good condition throughout the week with 69 percent calved, compared to 72 percent last year. Sheep and lambs condition ranged from poor to excellent condition with most in good condition. Lambing was 64 percent complete, compared to 71 percent a year ago. Hay and roughage supplies were mostly adequate, compared to mostly short last year. Feed grain supplies remained mostly adequate, unchanged from last year. Pasture conditions were reported at 9 percent very poor, 18 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 41 percent good and 5 percent excellent, compared to 1 percent very poor, 20 percent poor, 48 percent fair, and 31 percent good this time last year.

Farm activities included building and repairing fence, applying fertilizer and repairing equipment. Soil testing is nearing completion and lime applications have begun. Grass tetanay has been a problem in some areas.

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TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING 03-28-2004

| STATION | TEMPERATURE | | WEEKLY | | WEEKS | | PRECIPITATION | | SEASON |
|------------------|-------------|-----|---------|-----------|-------|------|-----------------|------|--------|
| | HIGH | LOW | AVERAGE | DEPARTURE | TOTAL | NORM | SINCE APRIL 1st | 2002 | |
| | 2003 | | | | | | | | NORM |
| --NORTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | |
| WHEELING | 76 | 20 | 49 | | 0.31 | | 37.97 | 0.00 | |
| PARKERSBURG | 79 | 21 | 53 | + 6 | 0.18 | 0.91 | 55.55 | 0.00 | 41.37 |
| CRESTON | 81 | 16 | 49 | | 0.14 | | 54.63 | 0.00 | |
| --NORTHCENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | |
| MORGANTOWN | 77 | 19 | 50 | | 0.15 | | 62.13 | 0.00 | |
| CLARKSBURG | 77 | 18 | 49 | + 3 | 0.23 | 0.88 | 55.44 | 0.00 | 42.18 |
| BELINGTON | 77 | 13 | 47 | | 0.17 | | 58.80 | 0.00 | |
| WESTON | 80 | 20 | 52 | | 0.23 | | 67.24 | 0.00 | |
| --SOUTHWEST-- | | | | | | | | | |
| WILLIAMSON | 81 | 21 | 55 | | 0.00 | | 51.68 | 0.00 | |
| HUNTINGTON | 80 | 20 | 53 | + 4 | 0.23 | 0.84 | 57.84 | 0.00 | 41.37 |
| CHARLESTON | 81 | 17 | 52 | + 3 | 0.23 | 0.78 | 55.04 | 0.00 | 42.42 |
| RIPLEY | 80 | 19 | 51 | | 0.14 | | 57.06 | 0.00 | |
| --CENTRAL-- | | | | | | | | | |
| TERRA ALTA | 72 | 15 | 46 | | 0.30 | | 73.69 | 0.00 | |
| ELKINS | 78 | 15 | 48 | + 5 | 0.19 | 0.91 | 62.24 | 0.00 | 44.69 |
| MARLINTON | 71 | 10 | 40 | | 0.00 | | 54.44 | 0.00 | |
| BECKLEY | 74 | 11 | 46 | + 1 | 0.10 | 0.77 | 54.56 | 0.00 | 40.92 |
| --SOUTHERN-- | | | | | | | | | |
| PINEVILLE | 79 | 19 | 50 | | 0.02 | | 68.91 | 0.00 | |
| BLUEFIELD | 77 | 12 | 47 | - 1 | 0.00 | 0.75 | 46.32 | 0.00 | 38.31 |
| WHITE SUL SP | 76 | 12 | 45 | | 0.07 | | 53.26 | 0.00 | |
| FLAT TOP | 72 | 11 | 45 | | 0.10 | | 55.63 | 0.00 | |
| --NORTHEASTERN-- | | | | | | | | | |
| MARTINSBURG | 78 | 17 | 50 | + 5 | 0.09 | 0.70 | 51.18 | 0.00 | 38.07 |
| ROMNEY | 85 | 11 | 50 | | 0.03 | | 48.17 | 0.00 | |
| PETERSBURG | 81 | 17 | 48 | | 0.00 | | 49.98 | 0.00 | |

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV